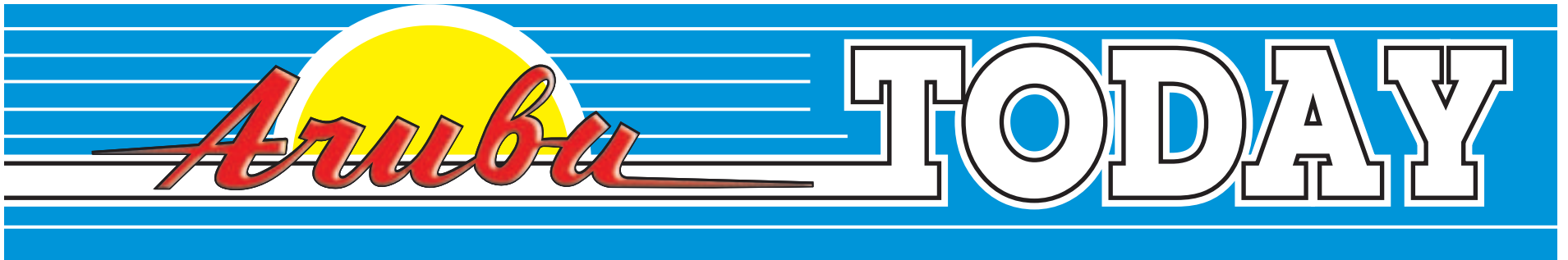




## SARAH-QUITA OFFRINGA: ARUBA'S TOP WINDSURF FREESTYLE QUEEN BECOMES SLALOM SPEED QUEEN

Page 13



On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Tuesday, September 2, 2014



President Barack Obama speaks at Laborfest 2014 at Henry Maier Festival Park Milwaukee, Wis., on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

# Obama: 'Revving' Economy Calls For Higher Wages

**JIM KUHNHENN**  
**Associated Press**

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — President Barack Obama renewed his push for Congress to raise the U.S. minimum wage Monday in a buoyant accounting of the economy's "revving" performance, delivered on behalf of Democrats opening their fall campaigns for the midterm congressional

elections.

"America deserves a raise," he told a union crowd in Milwaukee, vowing to keep a hard sell on Congress in much the way he once courted his wife. "I just wore her down," he cracked. Timing his push to Labor Day, the traditional start of the autumn campaign, Obama aggressively drew attention to recent eco-

nomie gains, setting aside past caution on that subject.

"By almost every measure the American economy and American workers are better off than when I took office," he said, rattling off a string of improving economic indicators even while acknowledging not all people are benefiting. "The engines," he said,

"are revving a little louder." It was, at least indirectly, a pep talk for Democrats facing tough races in a nation still gripped with economic anxieties.

The emphasis on the minimum wage is designed to draw campaign contrasts with Republicans, many of whom maintain that an increase would hurt small businesses and slow

down hiring. No one expects Congress to act on it before the November elections.

Despite the absence of a federal increase, 13 states raised their minimum wages at the beginning of this year.

Continued on page 4



## Pro-Russian rebels soften demands at peace talks

V. ISACHENKOV  
JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Pro-Russian rebels softened their demand for full independence Monday, saying they would respect Ukraine's sovereignty in exchange for autonomy — a shift that reflects Moscow's

follow last week's meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Ukrainian counterpart, Petro Poroshenko. The negotiations involve former Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma; Russia's ambassador to Ukraine; an envoy from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

insula that Russia annexed in March, a move that cost Ukraine several major ports, half its coastline and untold billions in Black Sea oil and mineral rights.

The talks lasted for several hours Monday and were adjourned until Friday, when the parties are to discuss a cease-fire and an

Russia's aggressive actions in Ukraine.

Earlier, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said participants in Monday's talks needed to push for an immediate, unconditional cease-fire. He rejected claims by the Ukrainian government, NATO and Western nations that Rus-

## UK: Passports may be seized to fight terror

SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Prime Minister David Cameron on Monday proposed new laws that would give police the power to seize the passports of Britons suspected of having traveled abroad to fight with terrorist groups.

Speaking to Parliament, Cameron said his government is also working on plans to block such suspected British jihadi fighters from re-entering the U.K. The power to monitor such suspects who are already in Britain would also be strengthened.

The plans to widen Britain's anti-terror laws, which are likely to be approved by parliament, are aimed at preventing attacks by Islamist militants returning from terror training in trouble spots in the Middle East. Like other Western countries such as the U.S., France and Germany, Britain is worried that citizens who travel abroad to join terror groups could threaten their home country when they return.

Intelligence and security services suspect that around 500 Britons have gone to fight in Syria and potentially Iraq. Cameron has described the extremism posed by the Islamic State group as the biggest security threat of modern times — surpassing that of al-Qaida — and said it poses a direct threat to Europe.

Britain's Home Secretary already has the authority to withhold passports in some cases, but Cameron said more is needed to ensure police at border crossings could act in time when they spot a suspect. "We will introduce specific and targeted legislation to fill this gap by providing the police with a temporary power to seize a passport at the border, during which time they will be able to investigate the individual concerned," he said. □



Pro-Russian rebel leader from eastern Ukraine Andrei Purgin arrives for the talks in Minsk, Belarus, Monday Sept. 1, 2014. A so-called contact group is meeting for talks in Minsk, the Belarusian capital, to reach an agreement on a cease-fire. The group, which last met in late July, includes representatives from Ukraine, Russia and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

(AP Photo)

desire to strike a deal at a new round of peace talks. The insurgents' platform, released at the start of Monday's negotiations in Minsk, the Belarusian capital, represented a significant change in their vision for the future of Ukraine's eastern, mainly Russian-speaking region.

It remains unclear, however, whether the talks can reach a compromise amid the brutal fighting that has continued in eastern Ukraine.

On Monday, the rebels pushed Ukrainian government forces from an airport near Luhansk, the second-largest rebel-held city, the latest in a series of military gains.

The peace talks in Minsk

and representatives of the rebels.

Yet similar talks earlier this summer produced no visible results.

Unlike the previous rounds, this time rebels said in a statement carried by Russia's state-run RIA Novosti news agency that they are willing to discuss "the preservation of the united economic, cultural and political space of Ukraine." In return, they demanded a comprehensive amnesty and broad local powers that would include being able to appoint their own local law enforcement officials.

This deal is only for eastern Ukraine. There are no negotiations on handing back Crimea, the Black Sea pen-

insula that Russia annexed in March, a move that cost Ukraine several major ports, half its coastline and untold billions in Black Sea oil and mineral rights.

The rebels' more moderate negotiating platform appeared to reflect Putin's desire to make a deal that would allow Russia to avoid more punitive Western sanctions while preserving a significant degree of leverage over its neighbor.

Over the weekend, the European Union leaders agreed to prepare a new round of sanctions that could be enacted in a week, after NATO accused Russia of sending tanks and troops into southeastern Ukraine. A NATO summit in Wales on Thursday is also expected to approve measures designed to counter

sia has already sent troops, artillery and tanks across Ukraine's southeast border to reinforce the separatists. "There will be no military intervention," Lavrov told students at Moscow State Institute of International Relations on Monday, the first day of classes for schools and universities across Russia. "We call for an exclusively peaceful settlement of this severe crisis, this tragedy."

Despite the Russian denials, Ukrainian National Security Council spokesman Col. Andriy Lysenko said Monday that "not less than four battalions and tactical groups of the Russian armed forces are active in Ukraine." A battalion consists of about 400 soldiers. □





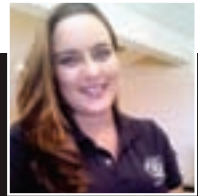
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## Americans detained in North Korea call for US help

ERIC TALMADGE  
Associated Press

**PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)** — North Korea gave foreign media access on Monday to three detained Americans who said they have been able to contact their families and — watched by officials as they spoke — called for Washington to send a high-ranking representative to negotiate for their freedom.

Jeffrey Fowle and Mathew Miller said they expect to face trial within a month. But they said they do not know what punishment they could face or what the specific charges against them are. Kenneth Bae, who already is serving a 15-year term, said his health has deteriorated at the labor camp where he works eight hours a day. The three were allowed to speak briefly with The Associated Press at a meeting center in Pyongyang. North Korean officials were present during the interviews, conducted separately and in different rooms, but did not censor the questions that were asked.

The three said they did not know they were going to be interviewed until immediately beforehand.

All said they believe the only solution to their situation is for a U.S. representative to come to North Korea to make a direct appeal. That has often been North

Korea's bargaining chip in the past, when senior statesmen including former President Bill Clinton made trips to Pyongyang to secure the release of detainees.

North Korea says Fowle and Miller committed hostile acts which violated their status as tourists. It has announced that authorities are preparing for the trial, but has not announced the date.

In Washington, National Security Council spokesman Patrick Ventrell said, "We have seen the reports of interviews with the three American citizens detained in North Korea."

"Securing the release of U.S. citizens is a top priority and we have followed these cases closely in the White House," his statement added. "We continue to do all we can to secure their earliest possible release."

Ventrell noted that the State Department has issued a travel warning recommending against all travel to North Korea for U.S. citizens.

Fowle arrived in North Korea on April 29. He is suspected of leaving a Bible in a nightclub in the northern port city of Chongjin. Christian proselytizing is considered a crime in North Korea. Fowle, 56, lives in Miamisburg, Ohio, where he works in a city streets department. He has a wife and three children aged 9, 10, and 12.

"Within a month I could be sharing a jail cell with Ken Bae," he said, adding that he hasn't spoken with his family for three weeks. "I'm desperate to get back to them."

North Korea says Miller, 24,

He was moved from a work camp to a hospital because of failing health and weight loss but last month was sent back to the work camp outside of Pyongyang, where he said he does farm-related

heard is that there has been no response yet. So I believe that officials here are waiting for that."

Bae said he did not realize before the trial that he was violating North Korean law, but refused to go into de-



**Mathew Miller, an American detained in North Korea, waits in a room after speaking to the Associated Press, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014 in Pyongyang, North Korea. North Korea has given foreign media access to three detained Americans who said they have been able to contact their families and watched by officials as they spoke, called for Washington to send a representative to negotiate for their freedom.**

(AP Photo/Wong Maye-E)

entered the country on April 10 with a tourist visa, but tore it up at the airport and shouted that he wanted to seek asylum. Miller refused to comment on whether he was seeking asylum.

Bae, a 46-year-old Korean-American missionary, has been held since November 2012.

labor. He said he has lost 15 pounds (6.8 kilograms) and has severe back pain, along with a sleep disorder. His family has said his health problems include diabetes, an enlarged heart, liver problems and back pain. "The only hope that I have is to have someone from the U.S. come," he said. "But so far, the latest I've

tails. He said the lead up to his trial lasted about four months, but the trial itself only took about an hour. He said he elected not to have a defense attorney because "at that point there was no sense of me to get a lawyer because the only chance I had was to ask for mercy." □



# Obama seeks to do no harm in midterms

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama has yet to campaign alongside a Democrat at risk of losing in the midterm congressional elections, and the president will be largely sidelined in nearly all of the races that will determine November's biggest prize: control of the Senate for the remainder of his presidency.

Hampered by low approval ratings and an unfriendly electoral map, Obama is seen as a liability to some vulnerable Democrats and a target for Republicans trying to fire up conservatives and appeal to disillusioned independents.

Republicans themselves are experiencing their own historically low approval ratings. But the party is all but certain to maintain control of the House of Representatives. And Republicans need to pick up just six seats in order to achieve a majority in the Senate for the first time in Obama's presidency.

That leaves Obama with the grim reality that even the most favorable outcome of the campaign will be a continuation of the divided Congress that has stymied nearly all of his second-term legislative goals. Mindful of his precarious political position, Obama is charting a midterm elec-

tion strategy intended to help where he can and, perhaps most importantly, do no harm to Democrats. Thus far, that has meant embracing his status as the

do targeted outreach as Election Day nears, using radio interviews, online appeals and other strategies to encourage young people and African-Americans

ate contests are in states where Obama has never been popular or has fallen out of favor with voters. Those states include Louisiana, Arkansas, Alaska, and



**President Barack Obama walks to the Oval Office after arriving on the South Lawn of the White House, on Monday, Sept. 1, 2014, in Washington. Obama traveled to Milwaukee to deliver a speech.**

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

party's most prolific fundraiser. While Democrats have grumbled in past election cycles about Obama's level of commitment to the party's success, the president has been an aggressive fundraiser during the 2014 campaign, headlining 40 money events this year, with more to come this fall. Obama is also expected to

to vote. White House officials say Obama probably will campaign in October for individual candidates, namely those running for the House, as well as gubernatorial candidates in contested states such as Florida, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. The most competitive Sen-

North Carolina. "We will go where we're most helpful and we will not go where it's not helpful," White House senior adviser Dan Pfeiffer said about Obama's Senate strategy. For much of the year, Obama's approval rating among the American public has hovered in the low 40s, the lowest of his presidency. He also has been battered throughout the summer by a seemingly endless string of foreign policy crises.

A Gallup poll conducted in August put public support for Obama's handling of foreign affairs at 36 percent. His approval rating on the economy sits at 35 percent, reflecting the fact that many Americans are yet to feel the impact of higher economic growth and lower nationwide unemployment.

Republicans see Obama's difficult stretch as a boon for their electoral fortunes. They are using the prospect of neutralizing the president for his final two years in office as a way to motivate conservatives to show up in an election where turnout is expected to be low. □

## Labor gains

Continued from Front

Those states have added jobs at a faster pace than those that did not raise the wage, providing a counterpoint to a Congressional Budget Office report earlier this year that projected that a higher minimum wage of \$10.10 an hour could cost the nation 500,000 jobs.

Until now, Obama and his White House aides had been reluctant to draw too much attention to positive economic trends, worried that some may prove illusory or that, even if they hold, many working Americans continue to live on the edge of poverty and take no comfort in the upswing.

But White House officials believe it is time to highlight recent improvements, in part to strengthen a difficult political environment for Democrats and to counter public perceptions that are eroding the president's public approval.

Officials say Obama's most compelling case is to compare the economy now to what he inherited in 2009 in the aftermath of the near Wall Street meltdown.

The White House is encouraging Democrats to draw attention to the recovery as they head into the November mid-term elections.

In an August memo to House and Senate Democrats, Obama's top two economic advisers underscored the positive news: more than 200,000 jobs created per month for six consecutive months, a six-year high in automobile sales, second-quarter economic growth that exceeded expectations and an expanding manufacturing sector.

The unemployment rate stands at 6.2 percent, dropping 1.1 points over the past year, and the stock market has nearly tripled in five years.

Even so, there is still significant weakness in the labor market, underscored by the long-term unemployed. Labor participation has dropped. □

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New York:

## West Indian Day Parade marred by nearby slaying

JONATHAN LEMIRE

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Colorful floats, elaborate costumes, politicians and merrymakers filled the streets Monday for the annual West Indian Day Parade, a Caribbean celebration and political see-and-be-seen event that was marred by a fatal shooting nearby before the official festivities got underway.

The parade, one of the city's largest, has been scarred by violence in recent years.

Hours before the parade stepped off, a "career criminal" who had recently been paroled opened fire on a crowd of people who had already begun parade festivities in Brooklyn, police Commissioner William Bratton said. A

55-year-old man was killed, and the suspect was taken into custody.

Last year, two people were fatally stabbed at the parade, and a man was shot to death in 2011.

Mayor Bill de Blasio defended the importance of the parade despite the violence that has often surrounded it.

"The vast, vast majority have a wonderful time and only a few individuals get out of line," he said at a breakfast attended by elected officials, parade organizers and local dignitaries before the parade.

"This parade started small, became big and is one of the great events in our city," he said.

Sporting a colorful tribal shirt, the mayor was joined on the hot, humid day by



Costumed participants make their way along Eastern Parkway in the Brooklyn borough of New York as they take part in the West Indian Day Parade, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014.

(AP Photo/Tina Fineberg)

## US attorney joins legal team for slain Jamaican

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)**

— A U.S. civil rights lawyer said Monday that she is volunteering her time to help represent relatives of a slain Jamaican man whose death in custody has amplified distrust of the Caribbean country's police force among many islanders.

Jasmine Rand, an attorney who heads the civil rights department for Florida law firm Parks & Crump, was one of the lawyers representing the family of slain Florida teen Trayvon Martin. Last week, she joined the legal team representing relatives of Mario Deane, a 31-year-old Jamaican construction worker who died on Aug. 6 after he was allegedly beaten in a police lockup in Montego Bay.

Two inmates have been charged with Deane's

death, but attorney Michael Lorne asserts the death resulted from police brutality or misconduct. An independent commission that probes allegations of abuses by Jamaican security forces is investigating the death.

Appearing at a Monday press conference in Kingston alongside Deane's parents, Rand said her pro bono work will bring international "resources" to the Jamaican legal team.

"Though I cannot speak in a court of law here, I can help to bring resources and I can help to bring legal strategies, share my failures and share the triumphs that we had in bringing the movement in the Trayvon Martin case," she said.

The press conference comes a day before Dr. Michael Baden, an internationally known forensic pathologist who has con-

sulted for decades on numerous high-profile deaths, is expected to oversee an autopsy on Deane's body. Baden most recently examined the body of Michael Brown, the unarmed teenager fatally shot by a police officer in Ferguson, Missouri.

Baden, once the chief forensic pathologist for the New York State Police and chief medical examiner for New York City, has accepted a greatly reduced fee to examine Deane's corpse in Jamaica, according to Rand.

Human rights activists have repeatedly criticized the high number of police killings by Jamaican police officers, and residents of poor neighborhoods regularly protest what they insist are unjustified killings by lawmen. Interest in the Deane case is high in Jamaica, where people are discussing the police custody death on street corners, in offices, in letters to the editor and on social networking websites. At Monday's press conference, prominent Jamaican attorney Bert Samuels described the case as "like a fire that can't be dampened."

his wife, Chirlane McCray, who is of Caribbean descent, and their children, Dante and Chiara.

The parade celebrates Caribbean culture and echoes traditional pre-Lenten Carnival festivities, with dancers wearing elab-

orate, feathered costumes. The event, which draws more than 1 million people, also provides one of the last big stages before the Sept. 9 primary.

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams was this year's grand marshal.



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### Texas:

## Both sides cite discrimination in voter id law fight

**MANNY FERNANDEZ**  
© 2014 New York Times

**HOUSTON** - Minority groups and Democrats in Texas have loudly opposed a state law requiring voters to show government-issued photo identification before casting their ballots. But one of the law's biggest critics can be found not in Texas but Washington - Eric Holder, the U.S. attorney general.

On Tuesday, in a federal courtroom in Corpus Christi, Justice Department lawyers will try to convince a judge to strike down the voter ID law, the latest skirmish in a three-year legal battle over whether the law passed by the Republican-led Legislature in 2011 discriminates against blacks and Hispanics. If Texas loses the trial - which opens Tuesday and will last about two weeks - it could once again be required to seek advance federal approval before making changes to its voting procedures, a level of oversight it was freed from

by the U.S. Supreme Court. The case has taken on a bitter political undertone, with Texas alleging that the Justice Department has gone after "only Southern, Republican-led states" and suggesting that the agency ignores the concerns of white Republican voters and favors minority Democratic voters. The allegations have outraged lawyers for the Justice Department and several minority groups, voters and Democratic lawmakers who are part of the agency's lawsuit against Texas.

"It's more of a political argument than it is a legal argument," said J. Gerald Herbert, one of the lawyers for several plaintiffs suing the state, including Rep. Marc Veasey, D-Texas. "Texas wants to argue about everything except the facts of this case." Texas and eight other mostly Southern states with a history of discrimination had been required under the Voting Rights Act to receive clear-

ance from either the Justice Department or a federal court in Washington before they made changes to their voting regulations. Texas sought so-called preclearance of the voter-identi-

fication law from the federal court in 2012. The court sided against Texas and blocked the law because it disproportionately affected the poor and minorities. That ruling was overturned

a year later, when the Supreme Court struck down part of the Voting Rights Act and freed Texas and the other states to change their election laws without federal approval.



Imani Clark, who does not have an approved form of identification and has not voted since Texas' voter identification law took effect in 2013, in Prairie View, Texas, Sept. 1, 2014. Justice Department lawyers say a voter ID law in the state is unfair to blacks and Hispanics, while Texas argues that Southern states are being unfairly targeted.

(Michael Stravato/The New York Times)

## Louisiana following judge's order on abortion law

**MELINDA DESLATTE**

Associated Press

**BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (AP)**—

The Louisiana health department will follow a federal judge's order and refrain from immediately penalizing doctors who are trying to comply with a new abortion law that requires them to obtain admitting privileges at a local hospital, a spokeswoman said Monday.

U.S. District Judge John de-Gravelles issued a temporary restraining order late Sunday that blocked enforcement of the new law that took effect Monday. The law requires physicians

at all five abortion clinics in Louisiana to obtain privileges to admit patients to a hospital within 30 miles (80 kilometers) of the clinic where the doctor works. State Department of Health and Hospitals spokeswoman Olivia Watkins told The Associated Press on Monday that the agency won't take action against any provider who shows he or she has applied for such privileges.

It was not immediately clear whether doctors from all five clinics have applied for hospital privileges.

Clinics in Shreveport, Bossier City and Metairie sued the

state, seeking to block the law. The lawsuit claims doctors haven't had enough time to obtain the privileges and the law likely would close all five clinics. Clinics in New Orleans and Baton Rouge were not plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

The judge said he will call a status conference within 30 days to check on the progress of the plaintiffs' applications and to schedule a hearing to consider a request for an order blocking the law while the case is in court.

Admitting privileges laws have been enacted in several states across the South.

Supporters say the laws are designed to protect women's safety by providing continuity of care in case a patient is hospitalized. Opponents say complications from abortion are rare, and hospitals are already obligated to treat people seeking emergency care. Opponents also say admitting privileges laws give hospitals the power to decide whether an abortion clinic can stay open.

Some hospitals will not grant the privileges to out-of-state physicians, such as those who work at some abortion clinics in the South. Some religious-affiliated

hospitals will not grant privileges to abortion providers. A panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a Texas admitting privileges law that's similar to the one in Louisiana. But in July, a different panel of the 5th Circuit voted to block Mississippi's law, which would have closed the state's only abortion clinic, saying every state must guarantee the right to an abortion.

The 5th Circuit is one of the most conservative federal appeals courts in the nation. It also handles cases from Louisiana.





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### US Financial Front:

## Civil disobedience expected in fast-food pay fight

CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — McDonald's, Wendy's and other fast-food restaurants are expected to be targeted with acts of civil disobedience that could lead to arrests Thursday as labor organizers escalate their campaign to unionize the industry's workers.

Kendall Fells, an organizing director for Fast Food Forward, said in an interview that workers in a couple of dozen cities were trained to peacefully engage in civil disobedience ahead of this week's planned protests. Fells declined to say what exactly is in store for the protests in around 150 U.S. cities. But workers involved in the movement recently cited sit-ins as an example of strategies they could use to intensify their push for higher pay and unionization. Past protests have targeted a couple of restaurants in each city.

The "Fight for \$15" campaign is being backed by the Service Employees International Union and has gained national attention at a time when growing income disparities have become a hot political issue. President Barack Obama and others have said raising wages for those at the bottom of the economic ladder could help strengthen the middle class. Many fast-food workers, for instance, do not make much more than the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour. That equates to around \$15,000 a year for 40 hours a week. But workers are often subject to unpredictable schedules and don't know how many hours they'll be given from week to week, since restaurants are careful to

avoid paying overtime.

The fast-food campaign is designed to bring attention to such hardships, which few customers think about when buying burgers and

fries, said Catherine Fisk, a professor of labor law at the University of California in Irvine. Over time, she said that could help "change the mindset" about fast-

food jobs, which have historically been seen as difficult to unionize.

"The goal is to persuade workers that it doesn't have to be this way. The goal is

to persuade consumers that it doesn't have to be this way," she said. "This is about getting attention to the issue."

Fisk noted that mining and manufacturing jobs were also once considered low-wage jobs with dim prospects. That changed in the 1930s, however, after legal protections for unionizing and actions by fed-up workers helped transform the jobs into more middle-class professions.

The National Restaurant Association said in a statement that the fast-food protests are attempts by unions "to boost their dwindling membership." The industry lobbying group said it hopes organizers will be respectful to customers and workers during the protests this week.

So far, the campaign and a similar effort on behalf of Wal-Mart workers have been effectively handled by BerlinRosen, a public relations firm known for its political work.



Velma Cornelius protests for higher wages outside a McDonald's restaurant in Detroit. McDonald's, Wendy's and other fast-food restaurants are expected to be targeted with acts of civil disobedience that could lead to arrests Thursday, Sept. 4, 2014, as labor organizers escalate their campaign to unionize the industry's workers.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

## Atlantic City's Revel starts closing after 2 years

WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey

**(AP)** — The most spectacular and costly failure in Atlantic City's 36-year history of casino gambling began to play out Monday when the \$2.4 billion Revel Casino Hotel emptied its hotel. Its casino will close early Tuesday morning. Revel is shutting down a little over two years after opening with high hopes of revitalizing Atlantic City's struggling gambling market. But mired in its second bankruptcy in two years, Revel has been unable to find anyone willing to buy

the property and keep it open as a casino. It has never turned a profit.

"It's kind of sad," said Andrew Tannenbaum of Edison, who has stayed at Revel a dozen times in the past year. "Compared to other casinos, this was a lot nicer. There wasn't the riff-raff here. But I think they overspent, went overboard and got in over their heads. When the Borgata opened, that should have been the last of the high-end casinos for Atlantic City."

Revel will be the second of three Atlantic City casinos to close in a two-week span. The Showboat Ca-

sino Hotel closed its doors Sunday, and Trump Plaza is closing Sept. 16.

So what killed Revel?

Analysts and competitors say it was hampered by bad business decisions and a fundamental misunderstanding of the Atlantic City casino customer.

"The timing of it could not have been worse," said Mark Juliano, president of Sands Bethlehem in Pennsylvania and the former CEO of Trump Entertainment Resorts in Atlantic City. "The financial climate while Revel was developing and when it opened were completely different."

Revel officials declined to comment. The casino broke ground just before the Great Recession. It ran out of money halfway through construction and had to drop its plans for a second hotel tower while scrambling for the remaining \$1 billion or so it needed to finish the project. When it opened in April 2012, it was so laden with debt that it couldn't bring in enough revenue to cover it.

The idea behind Revel was to open a totally different resort, a seaside pleasure palace that just happened to have a casino as one of its features.



# Dry California tries to curb private drilling for water

**FELICITY BARRINGER**

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**FRESNO, Calif.** - The small prefab office of Arthur & Orum, a well-drilling outfit hidden in the almond trees and grapevines south of Fresno, has become a magnet for scores of California farmers in desperate need of water to sustain their crops. Looking at binders of dozens of orders for yet-to-be-drilled wells, Steve Arthur, a manager, said, "We've got more stacked up than we'll do before the end of the year."

California's vicious, prolonged drought, which has radically curtailed most natural surface water supplies, is making farmers look deeper and deeper underground to slake their thirst. This means the drought is a short-term bonanza for firms like Arthur & Orum, which expects to gross more than \$3 million this year.

But in a drought as long and severe as the current one, over-reliance on groundwater means that land sinks, old wells go dry, and saltwater in-

vades coastal aquifers. Aquifers are natural savings accounts, a place to go when the streams run dry. Exhaust them, and the \$45 billion annual agricultural economy will take a severe hit, while small towns run dry.

Yet for a century, farmers believed that the law put control of groundwater in the hands of landowners, who could drill as many wells as deeply as they wanted, and court challenges were few.

That just changed. The California Legislature, in its closing hours on Friday, passed new and sweeping groundwater controls. The measures do not eliminate private ownership, but they do establish a framework for managing withdrawals through local agencies.

It all happened after many farmers slowly rethought their priorities, as they surveyed a landscape of over-pumping, dropping water levels and multimillion-dollar groundwater sales. Ceding some control of groundwater management to local water

agencies, an idea long opposed, became palatable enough to win over a significant share of farmers.

It helped that the controls were matched by the state's commitment to expanding existing water storage.

But the new legal frame-

work excessive withdrawals. Water levels in dozens of wells are at historic lows, making Arthur's new wells more expensive.

In an average year, 39 percent of the water consumed in California comes from the ground, according to a new state report. In

on groundwater supplies. "If we don't deal with this properly, you're going to see local economies crash," said David Orth, the general manager of the Kings River Conservation District on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. "We're going to have peo-



**Athur & Orum crew members drill a 700-foot-deep well for a farmer in Pixley, Calif. California's vicious, prolonged drought, which has radically curtailed most natural surface water supplies, is making farmers look deeper underground to slake their thirst and causing the state's lawmakers to enforce stricter groundwater controls.**

(Jim Wilson/The New York Times)

work not only empowers local control of groundwater, it sets out another requirement: When localities fail to manage their aquifers sustainably, the state can step in. Water managers in 126 of more than 500 groundwater basins - the ones designated high or medium priority - must develop groundwater-management plans by 2020 or give way to the state.

Gov. Jerry Brown is expected to sign the new measures, and California will become the last southwestern state to establish groundwater controls.

Not everyone is pleased. "I shudder to think that the state will enforce stringent water-removal limits," Marvin Meyers, an almond grower based in Firebaugh, on the west side of the state's Central Valley, said in an interview. "For the government to tell us how we do it is frightening."

Water managers understand Meyers' fear, but for many it has been trumped by the risk of ignoring the

areas with little surface water, like the central coast from Carmel to Santa Barbara, groundwater makes up 80 percent of supplies on average.

But this year is hardly average. Now, in the third year of a drought, an estimated 60 percent of the water for agriculture comes from underground. The basin under Paso Robles, a wine-growing center, is strikingly low.

And while most pumping is to fill taps or keep vines and almond trees alive, a few farmers pump to sell high-priced water to others. Not long ago, The Modesto Bee reported, farmers in Merced County made a \$46 million, four-year deal to sell nearly 100,000 acre-feet - an acre-foot is enough to supply at least two houses for a year, or to cover an acre of land 1 foot deep - to buyers in the neighboring county. The deal was challenged and has been scaled back.

Not just farmers, but cities like Fresno rely heavily

ple go out of business because of the lack of water. We're going to have an uncontrolled market adjustment."

He added, "I've had growers argue, 'We don't need no stinking groundwater legislation. If I need to pump deeper, I can pump deeper.'"

Tim Quinn, the executive director of the Association of California Water Agencies, whose farmer-heavy association was riven with dissent when it supported groundwater controls earlier this year, said in an interview, "There's part of the groundwater legislation that's going to have us doing some very painful things locally." But, he added, "Groundwater management is part of a good solution to a problem, a solution that doesn't involve a contraction of the economy."

He hopes that a new \$7.5 billion water bond that voters will decide on in November will also be part of the solution.



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# Iraqi prime minister pledges to root out militants

SAMEER N. YACCOUB

Associated Press

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Iraq's outgoing prime minister pledged Monday to turn his country into "a big grave" for Sunni militants from the Islamic State group and commended security forces who achieved a rare victory over insurgents by ending the siege of a Shiite town.

Nouri al-Maliki made the comments during an unannounced visit to the northern community of Amirli, where he was greeted with hugs.

A day earlier, Iraqi forces backed by Iran-allied Shiite militias and U.S. airstrikes broke a two-month siege of the town where some 15,000 Shiite Turkmen had been stranded.

In footage aired on state TV, al-Maliki was shown sitting at a wooden desk in front of a large poster of Shiite leader Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, ordering promotions and awards for those who fought in the battle.

"I salute you for your steadfastness and patience against those beasts and killers," he told a gathering of fighters in a large hall as they chanted Shiite religious slogans. He vowed to root out Sunni militants from areas they control in the country.

"All Iraq will be a grave for those infidels, and we will send all the IS (Islamic State) gang to death," he added.

Hours before the visit, humanitarian aid began flowing to the town.

Four trucks loaded with food and medicine arrived after being sent by the Iraqi government and the Iraqi Red Crescent, according to Ali al-Bayati, who heads the aid organization called the Turkmen Saving Foundation. Soldiers began bringing food to families in their houses Sunday night.

"The situation is getting back to normal, but gradually," al-Bayati told The Associated Press. "Some people have come out from their houses and walked in the street. Shops are still closed, but people

are happy to see their city secured by Iraqi security forces."

Shiite Turkmen lawmaker Fawzi Akram al-Tarzi said the U.S. airstrikes and Iranian support for Iraqi forces "have played a positive role in defeating the terrorists," although he said the airstrikes "came late" in the battle.

On Monday, Iraqi security forces and Shiite militiamen retook the nearby town of Suleiman Beg following fierce clashes with Sunni militants, Al-Tarzi said.

"The brave people of Amirli have made their town a new Stalingrad," he added, referring to the former name of the Russian city of Volgograd, famous for resisting a long siege by the German military during World War II. "Amirli people have clearly shown that Iraqis could not be intimidated by terrorists."

Since early this year, Iraq has faced a growing Sunni insurgency led by an al-Qaida-breakaway group, the Islamic State. With help from allied militants, they have taken over territory in the country's north and west and created Iraq's worst crisis since the 2011 withdrawal of U.S. troops.

In June, a summer offensive stunned Iraqi security forces and the military, which melted away and withdrew as the Islamic State group overran the northern cities of Mosul and Tikrit, as well as small towns and villages on their path.

Since then, Iraqi security forces and Shiite militias have been fighting the militants without achieving significant progress on the ground.

Thousands of fighters from Iranian-backed Shiite militias have answered a call by al-Sistani to join government forces in the fight.

The U.S. airstrikes that helped liberate Amirli were the first to hit areas where Iranian-backed militias were fighting Sunni militants, possibly outlining an unlikely alliance between the U.S. and Shiite militiamen who once fought American soldiers in Iraq.



Outgoing prime minister Nouri al-Maliki, center, is surrounded by residents and security forces after his arrival in Amirli, some 105 miles (170 kilometers) north of Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014. Al-Maliki praised residents for fending off attacks by Sunni militants who had besieged them for more than two months until security forces backed by Iran-allied Shiite militias and U.S. airstrikes broke the siege a day earlier.

(AP Photo/Iraqi Government)



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## Austerity debate flares as Europe recovery fades

**DAVID McHUGH**  
**LORI HINNANT**  
**Associated Press**  
**FRANKFURT, Germany**

**(AP)** — Europe's economic recovery is in danger. Governments are under pressure to save it, but struggling with political obstacles and disagreement among themselves over what to do.

Instead, the region is pinning its hopes — once again — on the European Central Bank, which is expected to launch new stimulus measures if the economy gets any worse. Europe's lack of growth is looming larger and larger, however, and the ECB says it can't save the economy alone.

For more than five years since the eurozone hit turbulence over too much debt in 2009, governments' answer has been to raise taxes and restrain spending. And there's been some progress. Deficits have shrunk, and countries that needed bailout loans are slowly getting their act together.

But second quarter growth was zero, after only four quarters of measly expansion. While unemployment in the United States has

last summer' 12 percent. The risk is that the eurozone remains stagnant for years — bad news not just for its people but also its three

major trading partners: the U.S., Britain and China. As worries spread, the debate over austerity ver-

sus growth is sharpening again. EU leaders will meet Oct. 6 to discuss growth, while the ECB will hold a policy meeting Thursday at which it is expected to flag its willingness to announce more stimulus such as bond purchases.

ECB President Mario Draghi is ringing the alarm.

He says the central bank can't do it all alone and that governments should dial back austerity, within EU rules aimed at restraining deficits. "It would be helpful for the overall stance of policy if fiscal policy could play a greater role alongside monetary policy, and I believe there is scope for this," Draghi said in a speech last week. Government spending can help boost growth by providing demand when the private sector is struggling. Draghi's not the budget boss, however. Each of the eurozone's 18 member governments decides its own spending. Germany, Europe's biggest economic and political power, and Chancellor Angela Merkel

are sticking with the emphasis on austerity. Countries with extremely high debt, such as Italy, are under pressure to keep the lid on spending.

Here's a look at Europe's dilemma. Some economists think much more needs to be done. Francesco Giavazzi and Guido Tabellini at Bocconi University in Milan say the 18 eurozone governments should do a coordinated 5 percent tax cut, spread their budget balancing efforts over an extra 3-4 years, and issue long-term bonds that the ECB would buy. That's unlikely to happen, as such steps would run into legal and political objections. But the proposal is a sign of how much stimulus some think is needed.

Draghi backed a proposal by Jean-Claude Juncker, the incoming head of the EU's executive commission, for a 300 billion-euro (\$394 billion) fund to invest in infrastructure such as roads, bridges and ports, drawing on existing EU funds and private investment.



**French President Francois Hollande, right, shakes hand with President of the European Central Bank, Mario Draghi, after a meeting at the Elysee Palace, in Paris, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014. Bank chief Mario Draghi called in a speech last month for fiscal policies to support growth, a departure from the ECB's implicit support for austerity. No immediate steps were expected but the bank has begun work on a program to buy asset-backed securities.**

**(AP Photo/Jacques Brinon)**

fallen to 6.2 percent from 10 percent at its peak in Oct. 2009, Europe's is at 11.5 percent — still near

major trading partners: the U.S., Britain and China.

As worries spread, the debate over austerity ver-

## Parents of ill UK boy fight extradition from Spain

**DANICA KIRKA**  
**MARIA CHENG**  
**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — The parents say they want to give their 5 year-old-boy with a brain tumor the best chance to live with a revolutionary new treatment they learned about on the Internet. Their British hospital says the boy has a 70 percent to 80 percent chance of survival with the treatment it offers, and it's the parents who are putting

the child at risk.

Britain has become riveted by the case of little Ashya King, whose parents plucked him from a hospital in southern England and fled to Spain amid a dispute over treatment — with British justice close on the family's heels.

Brett and Nagheme King signaled Monday they would fight extradition, defying doctors and the legal system as a British court considers a ruling on

forcing the family to come home.

"I'm not coming back to England if I cannot give him the treatment I want, which is proper treatment," Brett King said as he cradled the child in a video posted before his arrest. "I just want positive results for my son."

The Kings are seeking a new type of proton beam radiation therapy that typically costs at least \$33,000. The Southampton General Hospital says that more

conventional methods have a very high chance of succeeding. It said that while proton beam therapy is effective for some tumors, in other cases "there isn't evidence that this is a beneficial treatment."

The family fled to Spain in hopes of selling a property to obtain enough cash for treatment in the Czech Republic or the United States. Police pursued them. Prosecutors issued an arrest warrant for an offence of

cruelty to a person under the age of 16 years, hours after the Southampton hospital realized their patient was gone.

British authorities traveled to Spain to question the couple.

Assistant Chief Constable Chris Shead, of Hampshire Constabulary, has said he would rather be criticized for being "proactive" rather than trying to explain later "why a child has lost his life."





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## At least 4 remain trapped in Nicaraguan gold mine

**LUIS GALEANO**  
Associated Press

**MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP)** — Rescuers hoped for a miracle Monday as they cautiously dug through mud, rocks and clay in search of at least four men missing since late last week when a landslide trapped them in a gold mine in Nicaragua.

Guided by a miner who escaped from the wildcat mine, workers found tools believed to belong to the men but had yet to find any sign of life four days after the accident.

"We hope to find them and that they are still alive," Carlos Najar, vice minister of the Interior, told the Channel 4 television station.

At least 26 miners were trapped Thursday when earth around the mine gave way near Bonanza, about 260 miles (420 kilometers) northeast of Managua. Twenty-two men who were rescued from the site were examined at a hospital and released. Between four and eight men were believed still missing: The exact number was unclear because the miners were freelancers, not formal employees.

The El Comal gold and silver mine is operated under a concession held by Hemco, which is owned by Colombia-based Minero SA. But the trapped miners themselves are freelancers allowed to work in the area if they sell any gold they find to the firm.

Families of the missing men were camped near the rescue site, waiting for word of the men's fates.

"We will be here until we know what has happened to them, living or dead," Rodrigo Flores, whose nephew is among the missing, told a local broadcaster, Radio Ya.

Gregorio Downs, a spokesman for Hemco, said the company would continue to offer all necessary support and hope that the missing men would be pulled out alive, as the 22 others were.

"We would wish for another miracle," he told The Associated Press by telephone. "All we can do is wait." Small teams lead by miners and emergency workers were digging slowly into the shaft about 200 meters (yards) underground.

The company had warned miners about the danger of working in the El Comal area, especially after two miners died in a rain-caused landslide there last month.

Rescue squad commander Javier Amaya said Monday that oxygen levels in the partly collapsed mine remained good but efforts were hampered by water and humidity.

"We are continuing to work in very dangerous and unstable conditions, where there are slides all the time. A lot of water is flowing into the mine," Amaya said.

Small teams lead by miners and emergency workers were digging slowly into the shaft about 200 meters (yards) underground.

## Pakistan:

## PM challenged by raging protests

**ZARAR KHAN**  
**ASIF SHAHZAD**  
Associated Press

**ISLAMABAD (AP)** — Ahead of a joint session of parliament, Pakistan's prime minister and army chief held marathon meetings Monday over violent anti-government protests that

ter's side. While many politicians have backed him so far, many in the country increasingly have grown worried about the protests and the direction of the nascent democracy in the country of 180 million people.

The turmoil comes as part

vision station, forcing the channel off the air.

Senior official Athar Farooq said 20 cameras went missing as protesters overran the station, armed with sticks and screaming. The intruders also destroyed equipment and fought with employees.



**Police beat a protester during clashes in Islamabad, Pakistan, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014. Anti-government protesters stormed Pakistan's state television building Monday, forcing the channel briefly off the air as they clashed with police and pushed closer to the prime minister's residence.**

(AP Photo/Anjum Naveed)

could force the premier of this nuclear-armed country to resign.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif again vowed he would not step down under duress, even as protesters briefly took over the country's state-run television broadcaster and battled security forces in the streets.

But the pressure from three days of violent protests on Sharif has intensified amid reports — later denied by the military — that the country's powerful army chief advised him to resign. The parliamentary session Tuesday appears to be an attempt to rally political support to the prime minis-

of the mass demonstrations led by cleric Tahir-ul-Qadri and opposition politician Imran Khan, who both demand Sharif step down over their allegations of fraud in last year's election. Their protests, which have been peaceful for weeks, turned ugly this weekend when clashes between protesters and security forces killed three people and wounded some 400 in running street battles in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad.

Monday began with more violence.

Demonstrators briefly took over Pakistan's state tele-

Several protesters also took down a portrait of Sharif from a wall, threw it on the floor and stomped on it in anger.

Soldiers and paramilitary Rangers later reached the building and began to clear it of protesters. Some private television stations showed footage of protesters embracing the Rangers and agreeing to leave.

The rallies against Sharif constitute the biggest threat to his government. Several rounds of negotiations between representatives of Khan and Qadri and the government have failed to resolve the crisis.



# Cuba cracks down on goods in travelers' luggage

**M. WEISSENSTEIN**  
**Associated Press**

**HAVANA (AP)** — Lugging duffel bags crammed with soap, socks, toys and other hard-to-obtain consumer goods, travelers arriving in Cuba on Monday complained that new govern-

ment restrictions on their imports would leave their families wanting. Passengers on flights from Miami said they were bringing in far less than usual thanks to higher customs duties and stricter limits on the number of products

allowed under rules that went into effect Monday. At Havana's international airport, there appeared to be fewer bicycles, 40-inch televisions or other bulky household items that normally made the baggage carousels look like a Target

or Wal-Mart checkout line during a holiday sale.

"There are barely any bags on the floor inside," said Arnaldo Roa, a 45-year-old Miami handyman on a trip to see relatives. While he had a bag stuffed with toys and clothes for his daughter, he said he wasn't able to bring his usual extra bags filled with gifts for other family members.

"I'm upset," he said. "Some relatives are going to get upset because normally I bring them things." The easing of travel restrictions by the U.S. and Cuban governments over the last five years has allowed travelers to bring in nearly \$2 billion of products a year. The government says the new limits meant to curb abuses that have turned air travel in particular into a way for professional "mules" to illegally import supplies for both black-market businesses and legal private enterprises that are supposed to buy supplies from the state.

Ana Maria Perez, who works in a South Florida factory making airplane seats, said she had been forced to pay \$95 in customs duties, far more than usual.

"We've got to pay a lot now," she said. "I don't understand it at all, but I paid."

The new rules run 41 pages and give a sense of the quantity and diversity of the commercial goods arriving in checked bags and, alternatively, by sea shipment. Travelers are now allowed to bring in 22 pounds (10 kilos) of detergent instead of 44; one set of hand tools instead of two; and 24 bras instead of 48. Four car tires are still permitted, as are two pieces of baby furniture and two flat-screen televisions.

The value of a passenger's imported items can total no more than \$1,000, with the estimate based on a long list of assigned prices for certain goods (\$250 for a video-game console, for example.)

Those values rose sharply under the new rules, making it far easier to reach the \$1,000 limit.

The new rules similarly increased the duties paid on goods shipped from abroad, another major source of foreign merchandise for the island.

Authorities took to the airwaves and pages of state media in recent days to assure Cubans that the vast majority of travelers won't be affected. The change is intended "to keep certain people from using current rules on non-commercial imports to bring into the country high volumes of goods that are destined for commercial sale and profit," Idalmis Rosales Milanes, deputy chief of Cuban customs, told government newspaper Granma in Friday editions.

Still, some travelers were furious.

"I'm not coming back anymore," said Diamara Cespedes, a Miami nurse. "They're finishing off the Cuban people with this."

The government has justified the new rules with examples of prolific mules including one passenger it said brought in 41 computer monitors and 66 flat-screen TVs in a year.

Between \$1.7 billion and \$1.9 billion worth of goods were flown to Cuba in traveler's baggage last year, with the average flyer bringing in goods worth \$3,551, according to a 2013 survey of 1,154 Cuban and Cuban-American travelers conducted by the Havana Consulting Group, a Florida-based private consultancy that studies the Cuban economy.

"It's sustenance, support that greatly aids in the survival of the Cuban family," Consulting Group President Emilio Morales said.

"Along with cash remittances, it's the most significant source of earnings for the Cuban population, not the salaries the government pays."

While his study did not look at the final destination of travelers' goods, Morales said he estimated based on his knowledge of the phenomenon that about 60 percent went to families and 40 percent to black-market retailers.



People put their luggage in a private taxi as they arrive from the U.S. to the Jose Marti International Airport in Havana, Cuba, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014. Cubans braced Monday for a clampdown on the flow of car tires, flat-screen televisions, blue jeans and shampoo in the bags of travelers who haul eye-popping amounts of foreign-bought merchandise to an island where consumer goods are frequently shoddy, scarce and expensive.

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)



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# Get to know a little bit more of The Ritz-Carlton, as well as Aruba's local and international chefs!

**PALM BEACH** - The Ritz-Carlton Hotels are very much known for their impeccable restaurants around the world and here at The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba we have some of the best local and international Chefs serving their customers with delicious dishes. This week we are recognizing Executive Chef Stephen Toevs who was so kind to share his journey with us. The new hotel is his sixth Marriott/ Ritz-Carlton destination having cooked his way around Phoenix Arizona, Atlanta Georgia, Houston Texas, New Orleans Louisiana, as well as some of the chain's major hotels in Ohio and New York.

"It was all pre-destined," he banter, "My mom likes to show an old VHS tape in which at the age of 10, I am making snail soup in the kitchen, like an accomplished mini chef, in the spirit of the family's tradition."

Both mom and dad were

consummate cooks, Stephen explains, and while mom's kitchen was spacious and fully equipped, dad had his own seafood kitchen in the basement, as mom would never left him clean fish in 'her' kitchen. Of Portuguese extraction, the family traces its roots to St Michael in the Azores, which translates into big Sunday meals, with grandparents, and other family members enjoying the weekly ritual with great gusto. Stephen's culinary journey started in college where he was studying Petroleum Engineering, and playing Rugby. He started working in a local restaurant when he had to feed himself well, before games, then one thing led to the next and he found himself getting a Culinary Degree, at the CIA, the Culinary Institute of America. Food was now his big passion and he was going to pursue it full force. As it turned out, Steven

met his wife in the kitchen, she was a vegan baker. He wasn't sure where the future would take him, because he was so enthusiastic just about every aspect of food preparation.

He was a virtuoso Italian chef for a while, then a seafood specialist, a master butcher, an expert smoker and curer of meats, smoking everything including veggie burgers. He now likes to think about himself as a progressive French chef, delivering classic preparations with a contemporary twist!

Explaining his culinary vision for The Ritz-Carlton in Aruba, he reports going back to basics, where the finest ingredients are sourced and then manipulated as little as possible, to let the full flavor of the original product shine.

At Solanio, the Italian trattoria, the artisanal pizza is baked in an authentic wood fire grill, and the restaurant offers veal, seafood



and meats masterfully prepared and plated, with all regions north and south, represented.

At Les Crustacés, full flavor and minimum manipulation reign supreme, with standout seafood dishes, made with locally sourced fish and locally foraged

micro greens, besides a signature selection of fresh shellfish at the raw bar.

Madero Argentinian Grill is where science finally meets the wood fire grill, as all prime meats served there hail from cattle with unaltered blood lines, cooked to perfection, at exact temperatures, and served with seasonal sides as the supporting cast members. Live entertainment and caring service are the other two secret ingredients, added to the mix to present Aruba's best culinary options.

Stephen, who is very approachable and friendly, managed to introduce himself and befriend, a great number of local chefs, since his arrival here. "I've been making myself at home," he simply states, and it shows, under his leadership the restaurants and the banqueting department have been warmly and enthusiastically received by the community, as if they've been here for the past twenty years. Executive Chef Stephen Toevs welcomes everyone to one of the three restaurants at The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba, ask for him while at the restaurant and he will be more than happy to meet and greet you at your table. □

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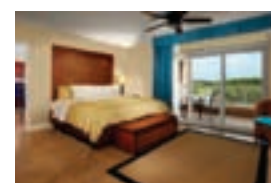
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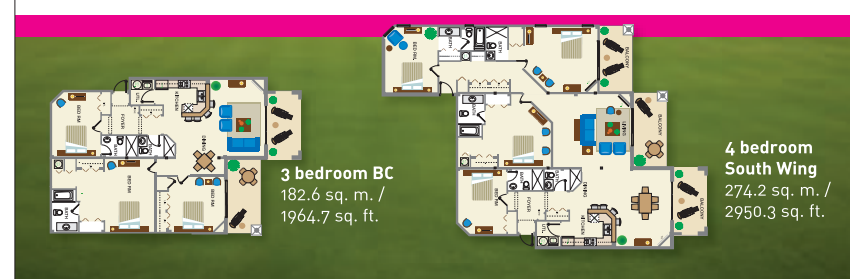
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## Super Food's Jack Bult receives the first Donkey Calendar 2015

**EAGLE BEACH** - The first Donkey Calendar 2015 was officially handed over to Jack Bult, the well-known super power behind Super Food last week. Shoppers witnessed the event with interest last Saturday morning.

The supermarket as well as its director are friends of many charities on Aruba; one of these is the Donkey Sanctuary. From day one Super Food has been a faithful advertiser on the calendar and it has allowed the Donkey Foundation to sell the calendar inside the store.

Twelve sponsors pay for the production of the calendar, which allows all proceeds to go towards the Donkey Sanctuary. The money is much-needed to be able to continue taking care of the more than 130 donkeys that find a home at the sanctuary. A great group of volunteers takes care of the animals; they also help raising funds. The 2015 edition of the Donkey Calendar is an example of their hard work. This year the theme of the calendar is Baby Donkeys. And guess what: with photographs of Aruban baby donkeys as well as their colleagues elsewhere in the world, the calendar is a beauty. The 2015 edition is for sale at the Donkey Sanctuary, but also at the service desk of Super Food. It makes a great gift and a wonderful memory to take home for visitors, who are catching two birds with one stone this way.



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Ekaterina Makarova, of Russia, reacts after a shot against Eugenie Bouchard, of Canada, during the fourth round of the 2014 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

## Bouchard loses to Makarova in U.S. Open's 4th round

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

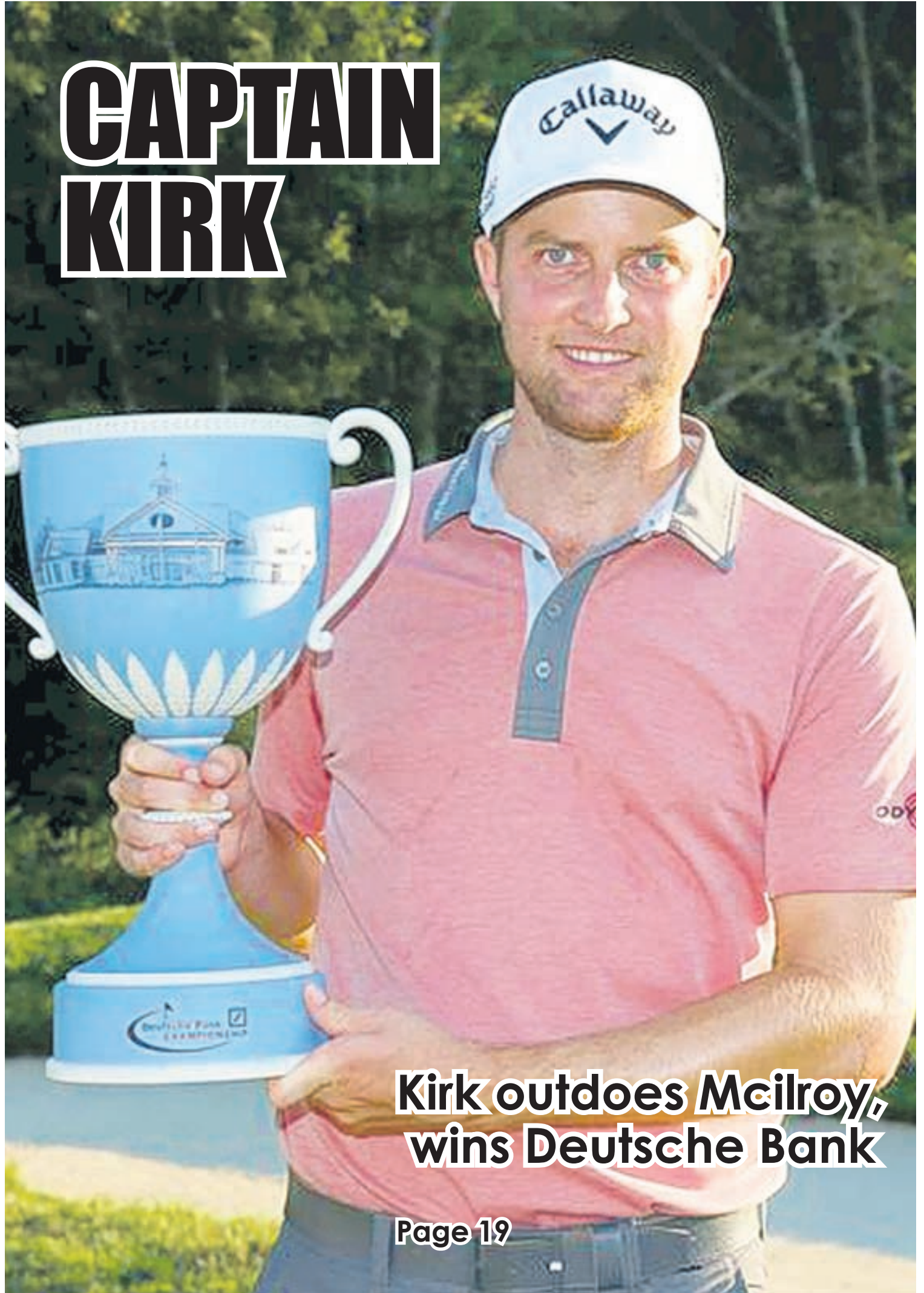
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Bothered by the heat and stifling humidity, Eugenie Bouchard felt dizzy and her vision was blurry.

She got her blood pressure checked. Plastic bags filled with ice were rubbed on her shoulders, arms and legs during a second-set medical timeout.

Bouchard tried to carry on, but it was hardly an ideal time to try to win a tennis match. The No. 7-seeded Bouchard became the latest top woman to bow out at this surprise-filled U.S. Open, beaten 7-6 (2), 6-4 Monday by 17th-seeded Ekaterina Makarova of Russia in the fourth round. It ended Bouchard's streak of making at least the semifinals at each Grand Slam tournament this year. That included a runner-up finish at Wimbledon in July; the 20-year-old Canadian is only 4-4 since then.

"I definitely felt a lot of outside expectations and pressure to win matches.

*Continued on Page 20*



## CAPTAIN KIRK

## Kirk outdoes McIlroy, wins Deutsche Bank

Page 19

Chris Kirk holds the trophy after winning the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament in Norton, Mass., Monday, Sept. 1, 2014.

Associated Press



# Houston Astros fire manager Bo Porter

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

**HOUSTON (AP)** - The Houston Astros fired manager Bo Porter on Monday, saying the dismissal had less to do with the team's 59-79 record than the need for "new direction" and a "united message throughout the entire organization."

Porter joined the Astros after working as a third-base coach for the Washington Nationals. The Astros went a franchise-worst 51-111 in his first season for their third straight 100-loss season.

General manager Jeff Luhnow said the decision was not based on "our current level of competitiveness." The Astros entered Monday in fourth place in the AL West with the second-worst record in the league.

"I recognize that our win-loss record is largely a product of an organizational strategy for which



In this Sunday, Aug. 31, 2014, photo, Houston Astros manager Bo Porter stands on the field during an umpire review in the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Texas Rangers in Houston.

I am responsible," Luhnow said in a statement. "Rather, I made this decision because I believe we need a new direction in our clubhouse."

Luhnow refused repeatedly to get into more detail about why Porter was let go as he fielded questions for almost 25 minutes

on Monday afternoon. He did say that he had been mulling the move for a few weeks and that he made the final decision on Sunday. "Once you make a decision it is in everyone's best interest to move it along," he said. "It's easier to wait until the end of the season in some respects, but it's not fair to Bo and it's not fair to us." Owner Jim Crane said the firing was "not an easy decision to make." It comes following recent reports citing sources who said Luhnow and Porter were not getting along. Luhnow wouldn't address those rumors other than to say that there were "numerous inaccuracies" in the reports.

Porter issued a statement Monday afternoon.

"During my time in Houston I dedicated myself to do everything I could to help this organization win, in the short-term and for

the long-term," he said in the statement. "I am proud of what we were able to accomplish in Houston with an organization in transition. I'm gratified we were able to bring some excitement to this city as a result of our improvement from 2013 to 2014."

Starting pitcher Scott Feldman lamented Porter's firing and noted the care and concern he showed when Feldman's father died earlier this season. He said he spoke to Porter on Monday and thanked him for the way he treated him throughout the season and particularly in that difficult time.

"I hope he realizes that he was doing as well as he could given the circumstances," Feldman said. "It's tough to see, but Bo's a strong guy and I'm sure he'll be back on his feet and back in the game whenever he wants to

be."

Whoever is hired as full-time manager will be the team's fourth since 2007, not including those who held the job on an interim basis. Luhnow said they hope to hire someone quickly.

"What we will seek going forward is a consistent and united message throughout the entire organization," Luhnow said. "It is essential that as an organization we create an atmosphere at the major league level where our young players can come up and continue to develop and succeed."

"Ultimately, I am responsible for creating that culture, and I will do everything in my power to do so - even when it means making difficult moves like the one we made today." Porter was the first managerial hiring in Luhnow's tenure, and he was unhappy it didn't work out. □

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# Kirk rallies to win the Deutsche Bank

**DOUG FERGUSON**

**AP Golf Writer**

**NORTON, Mass. (AP)** — Chris Kirk made three big putts and captured the biggest win of his career Monday in the Deutsche Bank Championship. Whether that was enough for U.S. captain Tom Watson to add him to the Ryder Cup team was the least of his concerns. Kirk won for the second time this season. He went the last 37 holes at the TPC Boston without a bogey. He played the final two rounds with Rory McIlroy and outplayed the No. 1 player in the world. And he closed with a 5-under 66 for a two-shot victory in a FedEx Cup playoff event.

Was it enough to convince Watson that he was worthy of a captain's pick?

"I certainly don't feel entitled, or feel like I'm a shoe-in to get a pick," Kirk said. "I've obviously really put myself into consideration, and it's something that I would love to do. But like I've said before, the nine guys that made it are automatic. Those are the guys on the team. The other three? If you get in, it's a bonus."

Then he looked at the blue trophy next to him and considered what he had just achieved.

"Winning the Deutsche Bank and going to No. 1 in the FedEx Cup, and \$1.4 million, that's plenty for me for one day," he said with a smile.

Watson announces his selections Tuesday evening in New York.

Ten shots behind after the opening round, Kirk was so disgusted that he skipped his usual practice session. He was flawless the rest of the week, particularly on Monday in another wild Labor Day finish at the TPC Boston.

Kirk made three big putts on the back nine — two of them for birdie — but what pleased him the most was his 15-foot putt for par on the 15th hole that kept him in the lead. Billy Horschel had a chance to at least force a playoff — and possibly win — when he stood in the fairway on the par-5 18th hole with a 6-iron in his hand. Horschel chunked the shot so badly that it

barely reached the hazard, and he made bogey for a 69.

"The worst swing I've made all week," Horschel said.

Horschel tied for second with 54-hole leader Russell Henley (70) and Geoff Ogilvy, who extended his unlikely run through these FedEx Cup playoffs. Ogilvy was the last of the 100 qualifiers for the Deutsche Bank Championship. He went 65-65 on the weekend without a bogey.

Georgia. Last week, Hunter Mahan bolstered his Ryder Cup case by winning The Barclays.

Kirk was trying not to think about that, saying he already had plans to be at the Georgia-Tennessee game the weekend (Sept. 26-28) of the Ryder Cup. But he would gladly break those plans for a trip to Scotland for golf's version of the Super Bowl.

"I would absolutely love to do it, but I'm not going to really base

it looked as if he was struggling with his swing, he saved par from a bunker with a 15-foot putt on the 15th. On the next hole, he made a birdie putt from just over 12 feet that gave him a two-shot lead.

Kirk, who finished at 15-under 269, failed to make birdie on a par 5 in the final round. He made a weak attempt on his 8-foot birdie try on the 18th.

That left it to Horschel, in prime position for at least a birdie.



**Chris Kirk, left, shakes hands with Rory McIlroy after finishing on the 18th hole of the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament in Norton, Mass., Monday, Sept. 1, 2014.**  
**Associated Press**

The top 70 in the FedEx Cup advance to the BMW Championship in Denver later this week. Ogilvy went from No. 100 to No. 24, and now stands a reasonable chance of getting to the Tour Championship for the top 30.

Kirk won for the third time in his career, though never against a field this strong, and never with this much riding on it.

He was No. 14 in the Ryder Cup standings, five spots away from being an automatic qualifier. This victory could go a long way toward Watson using one of his three selections on the 29-year-old from

how happy I am with how I'm playing, or how my year has gone, on whether I make the team or not," Kirk said.

McIlroy, who started the final round only two shots behind on a course where he won two years ago, fell back with successive bogeys on the front nine, bounced back with a pair of birdies, and then fell out of the mix by missing two short par putts early on the back nine.

He closed with a 70 and tied for fifth with John Senden (66).

Kirk took the outright lead for the first time with a 25-foot birdie putt on the 13th hole. And right when

"When Chris missed his birdie, I thought I was going to hit it on the green. I thought I was going to make the putt and make the eagle and win it outright," Horschel said. "But it just wasn't my day, I guess, to hit that bad of a shot."

A small consolation for Horschel was going from No. 82 in the FedEx Cup to No. 20, all but assuring a spot in the Tour Championship. Six players moved into the top 70, though none was more surprising than Ogilvy.

He became the first player in four years to go from No. 100 to the third playoff event. □



## U.S. OPEN

*Continued from Page 17*

"I felt more like it's normal if I win and it's a bit more of a disaster when I lose," Bouchard said. "But that's something that I need to block out."

In muggy air, with the temperature in the high 80s (above 30 Celsius), Bouchard began having trouble from the middle of the first set and was checked on by a trainer during the changeover after the second set's fifth game. During that delay, Makarova cooled down by putting ice bags on herself. Asked what went through her mind during Bouchard's medical break, Makarova smiled.

"Well, actually, I thought, 'Thanks,' because I also was tired," Makarova said with a smile. "It was really (helpful) for me also."

It's not the first time Bouchard has been affected by heat, saying it happened at last year's U.S. Open, too, and as a junior at the Australian Open.

"Once in a while, I get a little bit light-headed," Bouchard said. "That's what happens."

Her exit means that for the



**Andy Murray, of the United Kingdom, reacts after defeating Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, of France, during the fourth round of the 2014 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014, in New York.**  
Associated Press

first time since 1977, eight women will have filled the eight finalist slots at a season's Grand Slam tournaments.

Li Na beat Dominika Cibulkova at the Australian Open in January; Li didn't even enter the U.S. Open because of a knee injury, while Cibulkova was stunned by 15-year-old American CiCi Bellis in the first round.

Maria Sharapova edged Simona Halep at the French Open in June; Sharapova lost to Caroline Wozniacki in the fourth round in New York, and Halep went out in the third round against qualifier Mirjana Lucic-Baroni.

Petra Kvitova defeated Bouchard at Wimbledon; Kvitova departed in the third round in Flushing Meadows against 145th-ranked qualifier Aleksandra Krunic, who had a chance to pull off another shocker Monday night against two-time major champion Victoria Azarenka.

While Makarova is into the U.S. Open quarterfinals for the second year in a row, Bouchard's early-for-her major exit certainly fits with the way things have gone the past eight days. Of the top 10 seeded women, only two remain: No. 1 Serena Williams and No. 10 Wozniacki.

The top-seeded man,

Novak Djokovic, played mostly mistake-free tennis, making only 19 unforced errors and facing only two break points — both saved — in a 6-1, 7-5, 6-4 victory over 22nd-seeded Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany. Djokovic, the 2011 U.S. Open champion, earned a spot in the quarterfinals at the U.S. Open for the eighth year in a row — and at a 22nd consecutive Grand Slam tournament overall. The last time Djokovic was eliminated before the quarterfinals at a major was a third-round loss to Kohlschreiber at the 2009 French Open.

Djokovic now meets two-time major champion Andy Murray, who got past No. 9 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 7-5, 7-5, 6-4.

In fourth-round men's matches Monday night, No. 3 Stan Wawrinka brushed off a tumble into the stands and beat No. 16 Tommy Robredo 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7), 6-2, and No. 5 Milos Raonic played No. 10 Kei Nishikori.

Williams got to her first Grand Slam quarterfinal of 2014 by overwhelming 50th-ranked Kaia Kanepi of Estonia 6-3, 6-3 Monday. Williams has lost 17 games

all told — the eighth time she's made it to the U.S. Open quarterfinals dropping that many or fewer.

One of the few glitches came when she tried to serve for the match at 5-2 in the second set, double-faulting twice in a row and getting broken. That, Williams acknowledged, came from feeling a bit of self-imposed pressure after losing in the Australian Open's fourth round, French Open's second round, and Wimbledon's third round. "I think I felt it in my service game," Williams said. "I'm like, 'Can I please make it to a Grand Slam quarters this year?'"

Pursuing a third straight U.S. Open title and 18th Grand Slam championship, Williams has avoided potential matchups against Kvitova, Bouchard and past major champions Ana Ivanovic and Sam Stosur, who beat Williams in the 2011 U.S. Open final.

Williams is 5-0 against her next opponent, No. 11 Flavia Pennetta of Italy.

"Of course, she's better than me, but if I still believe I can beat her," Pennetta said, "maybe if she doesn't have a good day, I can do that." □

## Kahne holds off Kenseth to win Atlanta shootout



**Sprint Cup Series driver Kasey Kahne celebrates after winning a NASCAR Sprint Cup auto race at Atlanta Motor Speedway, Sunday, Aug. 31, 2014, in Hampton, Ga.**

Associated Press

**CHARLES ODUM**

**AP Sports Writer**

**HAMPTON, Georgia (AP)**

— Kasey Kahne grabbed the lead at the restart following a caution with 23 laps remaining and held off Matt Kenseth in a two-lap shootout to win the

NASCAR Sprint Cup race at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Sunday night.

Kahne's first win of the season earned him a spot in the Chase for the Sprint cup. Kenseth also qualified for the Chase on points.

Denny Hamlin was third, followed by Jimmie Johnson, Carl Edwards and Danica Patrick.

Meanwhile, Tony Stewart's much-anticipated return to racing ended a little more than halfway through the race.

Stewart hit the wall for the second time after his right front tire blew out on Lap 172, ending his night with a 41st-place finish.

It was Stewart's first race since the sprint car he was driving struck and killed 20-year-old Kevin Ward Jr. in an Aug. 9 race at a dirt track in upstate New York. The fatal wreck is still under investigation.

With only two laps remain-

ing and Kahne holding a solid lead over Kevin Harvick, Martin Truex Jr. and Kyle Busch collided, forcing a caution flag and the first shootout. Harvick, who led 195 laps, had contact with Joey Logano in heavy traffic and hit the wall on the restart, bringing another caution flag and a second shootout.

Kahne, who had four fresh tires, started behind Kenseth and Hamlin on the final restart.

Harvick, who also won the Nationwide Series race on Saturday night, started from the pole and led the first 80 laps.

Logano, who won last week at Bristol, finished 14th.

Stewart's problems started when he went into the wall earlier in the race following a collision with Kyle Busch. Kenseth began the night fifth in the points race, but not yet locked into the

Chase because he had no wins. Kenseth needed to finish seventh or better to secure his place in the playoffs.

After leading the final 159 laps of his dominant Nationwide series win on Saturday night, Harvick resumed his mastery of the Atlanta Motor Speedway track. Starting from his series-leading sixth pole of the season, Harvick led the first 80 laps, giving him a combined 239 consecutive laps led at the track over two races.

Hamlin passed Harvick for the lead after Jeff Gordon, who had been second, blew a tire and slid into the wall on turn 3 on the 78th lap, forcing a yellow flag.

Stewart started 12th and opened strong, moving up to sixth in the first five laps. Driving high on the track, three-wide at times, he made two more passes to

move to fourth a few laps later. He fell back to 12th before his first big setback. Busch, attempting to move to the top of the track, cut in front of Stewart, forcing Stewart into the wall. After two visits to pit row for repairs, Stewart didn't last long. Only 50 laps later, he hit the wall on turn 2 after his right front tire blew. This time he drove his more heavily damaged car to the garage, and his race was over. Brad Keselowski was fourth when a collision with Josh Wise ended his night with 28 laps remaining.

Ty Dillon, making his Sprint Cup debut, finished 25th. Harvick had a scare early in the race when a small animal ran across the track in front of his car. He told his crew a cat ran across the track, but later it was discovered to be a squirrel, which was found hiding near turn 3. □



## Baseball Capsules

# Angels rout A's to finish 4-game sweep

**ANAHEIM, California (AP)** — Mike Trout hit his career-high 31st homer and drove in three runs as the Los Angeles Angels finished off a four-game sweep, beating the Oakland Athletics 8-1 Sunday.

Rookie Matt Shoemaker allowed five hits over seven shutout innings as the Angels won their sixth in row for the best record in the majors at 83-53. They shut out the A's for the 29 consecutive innings while opening a five-game lead atop the AL West heading into September.

Trout had a two-run single during a six-run second inning. Chris Iannetta homered and had three hits for Los Angeles, which has won 15 of 19. The A's have lost 14 of 20.

Shoemaker (14-4) won for the sixth time in August and extended his scoreless streak to 23 1-3 innings.

Scott Kazmir (14-7) got just four outs. A's manager Bob Melvin was ejected for arguing balls and strikes after pulling Kazmir.

The Athletics acquired slugger Adam Dunn from the Chicago White Sox before the game.

**MARINERS 5, NATIONALS 3**

**SEATTLE (AP)** — Dustin Ackley homered and drove in four runs as the Seattle Mariners averted a three-game sweep, overcoming a pair of home runs by Bryce Harper to beat Washington.

Nate Schierholz also homered for Washington. The NL East-leading Nationals hit 10 home runs in the series, one short of the Safeco Field record for a three-game set established by Cleveland in 2009.

Washington has lost four of six. Seattle had lost three in a row, and had been 0-11 against the Nationals since the franchise moved from Montreal to Washington for the 2005 season.

The Mariners trailed 3-1 in the fifth when Ackley hit a three-run homer off Tanner Roark (12-9).

Hisashi Iwakuma (13-6) went six innings. In his last 11 starts, he is 8-2 with 72 strikeouts and five walks.

Fernando Rodney gave up a lead-off single to Harper in the ninth before getting his 39th save in 42 chances.

**ORIOLES 12, TWINS 8**

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — J.J. Hardy hit his fourth career grand slam during a seven-run sixth inning, Nelson Cruz connected for his major league-leading 35th home run and Ryan Flaherty also homered, leading Baltimore over Minnesota.

Caleb Joseph had a career-high four hits for the Orioles, who lead the AL East lead by nine games over the Yankees.

Chen Wei-yin (14-4) allowed four

runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings. Minnesota scored three times in the ninth before Zach Britton served up a double-play ball for his 31st save. Trevor Plouffe and Danny Santana hit two-run homers for the Twins, who have lost seven of eight. Ricky Nolasco (5-10) gave up eight runs and 12 hits over five-plus innings.

**WHITE SOX 6, TIGERS 2**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Jose Quintana allowed two runs over seven innings to earn his first win in more than a month as the Chicago White Sox beat Detroit after trading Adam

**BLUE JAYS 4, YANKEES 3**

**TORONTO (AP)** — Jose Bautista homered for the fifth straight game as the Toronto Blue Jays erased a three-run deficit to beat the New York Yankees.

Derek Jeter had a chance to tie it for the Yankees in the ninth inning. With the sellout crowd of 45,678 on its feet, Jeter popped up with a runner on third for the final out in his last regular-season at-bat in Toronto.

Brett Gardner finished a single shy of the cycle, but New York lost its second straight. Gardner had a big opportunity in the ninth, ground-

sixth of his career.

The right-hander's previous win came over Kansas City on July 18, five days after he tossed a three-hitter in an 11-0 win against Houston. He was 0-3 in that span.

Alex Cobb (9-7) gave up two runs and seven hits over 6 1-3 innings and took his first loss in two months. He had been 7-0 in his previous 11 starts.

**ASTROS 3, RANGERS 2**

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Matt Dominguez hit a tying homer and Jose Altuve's fourth hit drove in the go-ahead run as the Houston Astros rallied in



**Oakland Athletics third baseman Josh Donaldson bobbles a ball hit by Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols during the second inning of a baseball game, Sunday, Aug. 31, 2014, in Anaheim, Calif. Pujols was thrown out at first on the play.**

**Associated Press**

Dunn.

The White Sox sent Dunn to Oakland before the game, ending a disappointing four-year run in Chicago for the veteran slugger.

Adam Eaton doubled twice and scored two runs. Jose Abreu extended his hitting streak to 12 games.

The Tigers held star Miguel Cabrera out of the lineup because of a sore right foot. He left the second game of Saturday's day-night double-header and is day to day.

Quintana (7-10) won for the first time since a victory at Detroit on July 29.

Rick Porcello (15-9) went 6 2-3 innings and gave up six runs, three earned. Detroit made a season-high four errors.

ing out with a runner on second to bring up Jeter.

Edwin Encarnacion and Melky Cabrera also homered for Toronto. J.A. Happ (9-8) won for the first time in seven starts and Casey Janssen got his 20th save in 24 chances.

Brandon McCarthy (5-4) allowed four runs and five hits in six innings, losing for the fourth time in five starts.

**RAYS 3, RED SOX 0**

**ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP)** — Clay Buchholz threw a three-hitter to stop his string of seven starts without a win, leading the Boston Red Sox over Tampa Bay.

Buchholz (6-8) walked none and struck out six. Only one runner reached second base during his second shutout this season and the

the eighth inning to beat Texas.

Dominguez connected off reliever Neal Cotts (2-8) with one out in the eighth to make it 2-all. One out, one pitching change and three batters later, Altuve singled home Jake Marisnick.

Altuve also doubled twice in matching his career high for hits. Dominguez had an RBI single earlier in the game.

Jose Veras (3-1) got the win and Chad Qualls posted his 16th save.

In other AL games it was Toronto 4, N.Y. Yankees 3; Baltimore 12, Minnesota 8; Boston 3, Tampa Bay 0; Chicago White Sox 6, Detroit 2; Houston 3, Texas 2; L.A. Angels 8, Oakland 1; and Seattle 5, Washington 3; and Cleveland 4, Kansas City 2, 10th innings, susp., rain. □



# Wood whiffs 12 as Gattis, Braves nip Marlins 1-0

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Alex Wood struck out 12 in eight dominant innings and Evan Gattis homered to help Atlanta beat Miami.

The Marlins had gone 60 games without getting shut out, the longest active streak in the majors.

The Braves, who have won four of five and 11 of 15, remained 1½ games out of the second NL wild-card spot. Craig Kimbrel earned his major league-high 41st save in 45 chances.

Wood (10-10) matched his career high in strikeouts for the second time this month. The left-hander gave up five hits and walked none, escaping a bases-loaded jam in the sixth by striking out Giancarlo Stanton and Casey McGehee.

Gattis hit his 21st homer in the second off Nathan Eovaldi (6-10), who dropped his fourth straight start.

GIANTS 15, BREWERS 5

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Pablo Sandoval hit a two-run homer among his three RBIs and finished a double short of the cycle, powering San Francisco past Milwaukee to match a season high with its sixth straight win. Madison Bumgarner (16-9) followed up his one-hit gem Tuesday against Colorado with seven strikeouts in six innings to win his third straight start.

Hunter Pence extended his NL-leading hitting streak to 13 games with a third-inning RBI double, the first of his four hits. He doubled again in the fifth and add-

ed a seventh-inning triple. The Brewers lost their season-high fifth straight road game and dropped into a tie for the NL Central lead with St. Louis. It's the first time since July 20 that they don't have sole possession of first place.

Milwaukee has held at least a share of the lead every day since April 5.

Milwaukee was outscored

St. Louis second baseman Kolten Wong homered but left in the eighth after falling backward when he tried to catch a popup in short right field. He appeared to hurt his head and shoulder, and was replaced by Pete Kozma.

Kozma led off the bottom half with a double, his second hit in four big league at-bats this year.



**Atlanta Braves Evan Gattis hits a solo home run against the Miami Marlins during the second inning of a baseball game in Atlanta on Sunday, Aug. 31, 2014.**

**Associated Press**

31-8 in the series. Kyle Lohse (12-8) allowed seven runs and nine hits in 5 2-3 innings for his fourth defeat in five decisions.

CARDINALS 9, CUBS 6

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Matt Holliday hit his third home run in two games and broke an eighth-inning tie with a two-run single, rallying St. Louis past Chicago.

Holliday had three hits and four RBIs for the Cardinals, who tied Milwaukee for first place in the NL Central.

Pat Neshek (7-1) earned the win and Trevor Rosenthal got his 40th save in 45 chances.

Carlos Villanueva (5-7) took the loss.

DODGERS 7, PADRES 1

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Ryu Hyun-jin came off the disabled list to pitch four-hit ball over seven innings, and Matt Kemp singled in the go-ahead run as Los Angeles avoided a three-game sweep in San Diego.

Ryu (14-6) struck out seven

and walked none while allowing one run in his first start since a loss at Atlanta on Aug. 13, when he hurt his right hip. Ryu improved to 4-0 lifetime against the Padres.

The seven runs were one more than the Dodgers scored in their previous three games combined. The NL West leaders lost by one run in extra innings in the first two games of the series.

Adrian Gonzalez had four hits. He also scored the first of the Dodgers' four runs in the eighth.

The Padres' four-game winning streak was snapped. Eric Stults (6-15) tied for the major league lead with his career-high 15th loss.

DIAMONDBACKS 6, ROCKIES 2

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Chase Anderson pitched six strong innings in Arizona's victory over Colorado.

Anderson (8-6) gave up five hits and one run while matching his career high with eight strikeouts. Nolan Reimold's first career pinch-hit homer in the seventh was the decisive hit. His two-run shot highlighted a four-run inning that broke the game open.

Charlie Blackmon led off the fourth with a home run, the only blemish against Anderson — who is 3-0 in three starts against the Rockies in his career.

Aaron Hill tripled, doubled and singled, scoring twice with two RBIs.

Jorge De La Rosa (13-10)

took the loss, the Rockies' fifth in six games.

REDS 3, PIRATES 2

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Chris Heisey hit two home runs, including a tiebreaking shot in the ninth inning, and Johnny Cueto overcame an early jolt to earn his 16th win as Cincinnati beat Pittsburgh.

Heisey's solo drive with one out in the ninth off Jared Hughes (6-5) helped the Reds avoid getting swept at PNC Park. Heisey began the day with five homers in 229 at-bats this year.

Cueto (16-8) gave up a home run to Josh Harrison on his first pitch. Jordy Mercer homered off Cueto in the second for a 2-0 lead.

Cueto wound up pitching eight innings and tied Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw for the major league lead in victories. Cueto worked around nine hits, striking out six and walking one.

Aroldis Chapman struck two in a perfect ninth for his 29th save.

METS 6, PHILLIES 5

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Anthony Recker snapped a sixth-inning tie with a three-run homer in a rare start as New York held off Philadelphia to avoid dropping into last place.

Wilmer Flores had three hits and made two sparkling defensive plays at shortstop in the final two innings to help the Mets hang on. By taking two of three in the series, they kept Philadelphia in the NL East cellar. □



**D.C. United forward Eddie Johnson (7) scores a goal in front of New York Red Bulls defender Roy Miller (7) during the second half of an MLS soccer match, at RFK Stadium, Sunday, Aug. 31, 2014, in Washington.**

**Associated Press**

**CARSON, California (AP)** — Gyasi Zardes scored twice to lead the L.A. Galaxy to a 3-0 over Chi-

vas USA in Major League Soccer on Sunday.

At Washington, D.C. United extended its lead to

## Galaxy dominates Chivas USA 3-0

four points over second-place Sporting Kansas City in the Eastern Conference with a 2-0 win over the New York Red Bulls.

Landon Donovan made a run through midfield in the 41st minute and found Zardes on the left wing, who fired a shot from the top corner of the box past Chivas USA goalkeeper Dan Kennedy for the lead.

Robbie Keane beat Jhon Kennedy Hurtado at the top of the box and lobbed the ball over Kennedy, who was caught in

no-man's land, for a 2-0 lead at the 68th minute and Zardes made it 3-0 in the 71st after a set of deft passes and misdirection between Donovan and Keane.

The Galaxy are two points off the lead in the Western Conference behind Seattle.

Luis Silva's goal in the 57th minute proved the difference and Eddie Johnson sealed the win in stoppage time for D.C. United's victory over New York. United 'keeper Bill Hamid sent a long ball

across midfield and Fabian Espindola flicked a header forward to Silva. Silva then beat Red Bulls goalkeeper Luis Robles to the ball and punched it forward to set up an open-net finish.

Johnson looped the ball over Robles in the first minute of added time after he got behind the defense on a ball sent in from near midfield from Perry Kitchen.

New York remains two points behind in the race for the final Eastern Conference playoff spot. □



# Sony wooing Japanese to PS4 with Dragon Quest

**YURI KAGEYAMA**  
AP Business Writer

**TOKYO (AP)** — Sony is trying to woo Japanese game fans to the PlayStation 4 home console that went on sale in November in the U.S. and Europe, but didn't arrive at stores here until February.

Atsushi Morita, appointed head of Sony Computer Entertainment's Japan operations effective Monday, acknowledged the momentum for the PlayStation 4 in Japan wasn't catching up with the West, although its cumulative global sales reached 10 million recently, the fastest pace for any game console.

The PS4 accounts for 78 percent of the home-console market in Japan, thrashing Microsoft Corp. of the U.S. and local competitor Nintendo Co., but Tokyo-based

Sony Corp. won't give a regional breakdown of recent sales.

Microsoft's Xbox One is set to go on sale in Japan Thursday, also much later than its November sale in the U.S. and some parts of Europe. Morita, the nephew of Sony founder Akio Morita, told reporters software games are in the works, mostly for early next year, including a revamped "Dragon Quest," a game series that is extremely popular with Japanese. A "metal slime" PS4 model, a tribute to one of the game's characters, will also go on sale. Pricing and other details were not disclosed.

"We are determined to expand in this market," Morita said at a Tokyo hall, showing trailers of dozens of games spanning genres including sports, car racing and shooting. Many powerful game



**Steve Miller, Managing Director of Ubisoft Japan introduces its new games for PS4 and the PlayStation Vita during Sony Computer Entertainment Japan and Asia (SCEJA) press conference in Tokyo, Monday, Sept. 1, 2014.**  
Associated Press

franchises were born in Japan such as "Super Mario," "Monster Hunter" and "Final Fantasy" so it's a tragic reversal to have the industry struggling here.

One reason: People around the world are increasingly turning to social networks, games played on smart-

phones and tablets, and other online entertainment. Game machines are clinging on by promising a more sophisticated experience, such as playing online with others and adding a movie-like narrative and visual quality to the interactive element of games.

"P.T.," a collaboration between star game designer Hideo Kojima and "Mimic" movie director Guillermo Del Toro, resembles a horror film, in which players solve a mystery by virtually walking through a spooky house where mass murders were committed. □

# Alibaba IPO comes with unusual structure

**JOE McDONALD,**  
AP Business Writer

**BEIJING (AP)** — Foreigners who want to buy Alibaba Group shares in the Chinese e-commerce giant's U.S. public offering will need to get comfortable with an unusual business structure.

Alibaba's online and mobile commerce businesses will be controlled by a "variable interest entity," an arrangement meant to allow investors to buy into Internet and other businesses in which Beijing bans or limits foreign ownership.

Used since the 1990s by Internet operators such as Baidu Inc. and Sina Corp., VIEs are based on contracts that say an offshore entity in the Cayman Islands or another corporate haven will control a Chinese company. Foreign shareholders get a stake in that offshore vehicle and profits but no ownership of the Chinese company.

"The VIE structure is the only way at present to play

this game," said Paul Gillis, a professor at Peking University's Guanghua School of Management. "So if you want to invest in restricted sectors of China's economy, you have to get comfortable with the VIE structure."

Chinese regulators have left the status of VIEs ambiguous. Most operate uneventfully, but courts have rejected contracts if they were deemed to be an attempt to evade ownership curbs.

Regulators could shut down VIEs, but "that would be too disruptive," said Gillis. "They don't mind the ambiguity because it puts them in a position of strength over the companies to make sure that they comply with government policy."

Such uncertainty is one of a number of risks investors have accepted to gain a stake in China's economy. Even after a steep deceleration in growth, it is forecast to expand by about 7 percent annually in com-

ing years.

And Alibaba, based in founder Jack Ma's hometown of Hangzhou, southwest of Shanghai, represents an especially appealing industry.

Its Taobao, Tmall and oth-

panding into online banking, entertainment and other services.

Analysts believe demand for shares will be so strong that Alibaba could surpass the \$16 billion raised by Facebook Inc. in 2012.



**In this photo taken Friday May 9, 2014, Jack Ma, founder and Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group, speaks to newly weds employees of the company during a group wedding held 102 couples in Hangzhou in east China's Zhejiang province.**

Associated Press

er platforms account for some 80 percent of Chinese online commerce. Online spending by Chinese shoppers is forecast to triple from its 2011 size by 2015. And Alibaba is ex-

That would value Alibaba at \$150 billion to \$200 billion, making it one of the most valuable U.S.-traded companies.

In a filing with U.S. regulators, Alibaba says licenses

for its online and mobile commerce businesses are held by Chinese citizens to comply with legal restrictions but VIE contracts will give shareholders "effective control." Still, it warns regulators "may not agree" they are legal.

An Alibaba spokeswoman, Florence Shih, declined to comment, citing the "quiet period" required by U.S. securities rules ahead of an IPO.

Investors can find a VIE gives them less control than they expect, according to a March report by Tom Pugh, a lawyer for the firm Mayer Brown JSM in Hong Kong. He cited the case of shareholders who lost control of a Chinese company when its founder blocked them from firing him by seizing the seals used to sign corporate documents.

In a dispute, foreign shareholders have to work through the Chinese legal system, which "may not be adequate or effective," Pugh wrote. □



# World markets drift as Wall Street has day off

**The Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — Ahead of a raft of economic developments this week, financial markets started the week on a lackluster note Monday as Wall Street was closed for the Labor Day holiday.

In Europe, the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed up 0.1 percent at 6,825.31 while Germany's DAX rose the same rate to 9,479.03. The CAC-40 in France ended a tad lower at 4,379.73. Earlier in Asia, China's Shanghai Composite rose 0.8 percent to 2,235.51 points and Tokyo's Nikkei 225 added 0.3 percent to 15,476.60. Hong Kong's Hang Seng was marginally higher, adding 0.04 percent to 24,752.09.

In Europe, the crisis in Ukraine remains a key source of interest for traders. On Monday, there were signs that a breakthrough may be in the offing as pro-Russian rebels appeared to soften their demand for full independence, saying they would respect Ukraine's

sovereignty in exchange for autonomy. The insurgents' platform, released at the start of Monday's

the future of Ukraine's eastern, mainly Russian-speaking region. There were some worry-

manufacturing growth slowed in August as export demand and investment weakened,

turers index fell to 50.2 from July's 18-month high of 51.7 on a 100-point scale on which numbers above 50 show an expansion. An official industry group, the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing, said its separate PMI declined to 51.1 from 51.7. A similar picture emerged for the 18-country eurozone, with the August PMI from financial information company Markit down at a 13-month low of 50.7. On Tuesday, the Institute for Supply Management publishes its estimate for the U.S. economy.

Whether the weak economic indicators coming out of the eurozone will prompt the European Central Bank to enact further stimulus measures at its monthly policy meeting on Thursday remains open to question. Bank chief Mario Draghi called in a speech last month for fiscal policies to support growth, a departure from the ECB's implicit support for austerity. No immediate steps are expected but the bank has begun work on a program to buy asset-backed securities. The crisis in Ukraine and weak eurozone economic data have combined to hurt the euro currency over the past few months. On Monday, it fell to a near year-low of \$1.3119.

After Thursday's ECB meeting, traders will be fully focusing on the U.S. nonfarm payrolls report for August. The release often sets the market tone for a week or two after its release as traders try and work out when the Federal Reserve will start raising interest rates. Investor confidence over the U.S. economy has risen following several months of strong growth in hiring and corporate profits and a series of major corporate acquisitions.

U.S. benchmark crude for October was down 25 cents at \$95.71 in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. □



**People walk past an electronic stock board of a securities firm in Tokyo. Ahead of a raft of economic developments this week, financial markets started the week on a lackluster note Monday as Wall Street was closed for the Labor Day holiday.**

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

negotiations in Minsk, the Belarusian capital, represented a significant change in their vision for

ing signs however that the global manufacturing sector is waning. Two surveys showed China's

raising expectations Beijing might launch more stimulus. HSBC Corp. said its purchasing manufac-

## Samsung:

# Shipbuilding and engineering arms to merge

**CHOE SANG-HUN**

© 2014 New York Times

**SEOUL, South Korea** - The shipbuilding and engineering arms of the Samsung Group announced a plan Monday to merge by the end of the year, in another sign that restructuring is gaining speed at the company, South Korea's largest conglomerate, in apparent response to the faltering health of its leader.

Samsung Heavy Industries will absorb Samsung Engineering by issuing 236 new shares for every 100 Samsung Engineering shares, according to the merger plan approved by the boards of both companies and disclosed in a regulatory filing Monday. That means that Samsung Heavy, one of the world's largest shipbuilders, will issue 94 million new shares, valuing the deal at 2.5 tril-

lion won, or \$2.4 billion.

Samsung's efforts to merge affiliates with related portfolios has quickened since Lee Kun-hee, 72, the patriarch of the group's controlling family, was hospitalized in May after a heart attack.

The exact condition of Lee, chairman of the conglomerate's crown jewel, Samsung Electronics, is a closely guarded secret. So are the family's plans for how control of the group will be divided and transferred to Lee's son, Lee Jae-yong, called Jay Y. Lee, and two daughters, Lee Boo-jin and Lee Seo-hyun.

Although partly an effort to become more nimble, Samsung's restructuring is widely seen as an attempt to overcome the uncertainty that the failing health of Lee, who led Samsung's growth into a

global brand, might cause for the conglomerate. It also was seen as an effort to help his son, the vice chairman of Samsung Electronics, inherit control. Samsung recently announced plans for the initial public offerings of Cheil Industries, formerly Samsung Everland, and the technology company Samsung SDS. Analysts said the stock listings would generate cash for Lee's children to help increase stakes vital to maintaining control of the group and to pay inheritance taxes on his wealth, including his Samsung stakes.

Cheil Industries recently spun off its industrial materials operations, which are being merged with Samsung SDI, a battery maker. Samsung Everland, which effectively was a holding company for the entire

group, with the Lee family as its controlling shareholders, changed its name to Cheil Industries after taking over Cheil's fashion business. The textile brand name Cheil, which means No. 1 in Korean, holds special meaning for the Lee family because it was an early building block of what is now Samsung. Samsung Heavy and Samsung Engineering had combined revenue of about 25 trillion won, or \$24 billion, last year. The merged company, which might adopt a new name, is aiming for 40 trillion won in sales by 2020, the two companies said in a news release. "The merger will enable the two companies to emerge as a world-class engineering, procurement and construction firm," Samsung Heavy said in the release. □



## Business Strategy:

## Wary of lean times, startups accrue additional financing

WILLIAM ALDEN

© 2014 New York Times

In 1999, right before the dot-com bubble popped, Lawrence Coburn quit his corporate job and dove into the Internet gold rush, raising \$600,000 from friends and family - including his grandmother - for a consumer ratings site he founded called RateltAll. At the time, virtually any idea, no matter how far-fetched, seemed to hold the promise of a high-flying initial public offering, making it easy to attract financial backing.

to raise \$19 million of equity and debt financing last month for DoubleDutch, which makes an app for organizing events. He readily received the money from some leading Silicon Valley investors, including Peter Thiel.

Silicon Valley has more money than it knows what to do with these days, leaving venture capitalists and other investors practically begging elite startups to take their cash. And the entrepreneurs are happy to oblige.

With young startups receiv-

money when the curtain call comes."

At a time when many consumer tech brands like Uber and Snapchat are bursting with financing that values them at \$10 billion or more, lesser-known but promising firms are also attracting prominent investors. Even traditionally conservative investors like T. Rowe Price are competing for access to the hottest tech deals.

In the first half of the year, investors put \$22.7 billion into venture capital deals in the United States, 71 percent more than in the pe-

ations. In the second quarter of this year, the average share price at which companies raised financing was 113 percent higher than the price in their previous financing round, according to the law firm Fenwick & West, which analyzed 174 financings in Silicon Valley.

Still, the investor enthusiasm is now mixed with a modicum of concern. A survey of venture capitalists in the second quarter by Mark V. Cannice, an entrepreneurship professor at the University of San Francisco

you will, not knowing how things will develop in the future when they really need the money."

Those who cite such fears typically have a few years' more business experience than the youngest 20-somethings in tech. Kevin Hartz, 44, chief executive of Eventbrite, an online ticketing service, said market concerns contributed to the company's move to raise \$60 million this year, at a valuation of \$1 billion.

Hartz has lived through two major slumps. In 2001, after the dot-com crash, he helped found Xoom, a money transfer company, but said he found it "impossible" to raise financing. The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 only worsened the financial climate. "We just had to bootstrap it," Hartz said. Xoom, after 12 years in business, finally went public last year.

He had a similar experience in the early days of Eventbrite, which he helped start in 2006. When the financial crisis of 2008 struck, Eventbrite was repeatedly turned down by venture capitalists, Hartz recalled. "We just hunkered down," he said. Then, in 2009, Eventbrite attracted \$6.5 million from Sequoia Capital, in its first venture capital investment, opening the door to additional financing rounds from other firms.

Silicon Valley is full of similar stories. Barry McCarthy, former chief financial officer of Netflix, who joined the company in 1999, recalled its \$50 million financing round in early 2000, shortly before the dot-com crash. He said the amount was significantly more than Netflix - which at the time was a company that primarily rented DVDs by mail - knew what to do with, but that the decision to take the money proved crucial. "Even though our business model was working quite well, we would not have had access to capital and we would have had to close the company if we hadn't raised the extra money," he said. □



**A worker at a center for Netflix, which financed \$50 million in early 2000, shortly before the dot-com crash, money that proved crucial to the company's survival, according to former chief financial officer Barry McCarthy, in Los Gatos, Calif. Some entrepreneurs say worries about a possible downturn are partly why they are stocking up on financing, essentially taking out insurance on the risk of lean times ahead.**  
(Dan Krauss/The New York Times)

But when technology stocks collapsed and venture capital dried up, RateltAll ran out of cash by 2001.

Today, Coburn, 45, who runs a startup in San Francisco called DoubleDutch (and who only managed to pay back his grandmother after her death - returning the money to her estate), fears that history may repeat itself. Without an immediate need for the money, he said concerns about a possible downturn factored into his decision

ing lofty valuations - and with conflicts around the globe stoking fears of a market correction - some entrepreneurs say worries about a possible downturn are partly why they are stocking up on financing, essentially taking out insurance on the risk of lean times ahead.

"If you've been through those boom cycles, you're looking for signs that the next one is coming, and you're very fearful of that," Coburn said. "You don't want to be stuck out raising

riod last year, according to PricewaterhouseCoopers and the National Venture Capital Association, which used data from Thomson Reuters.

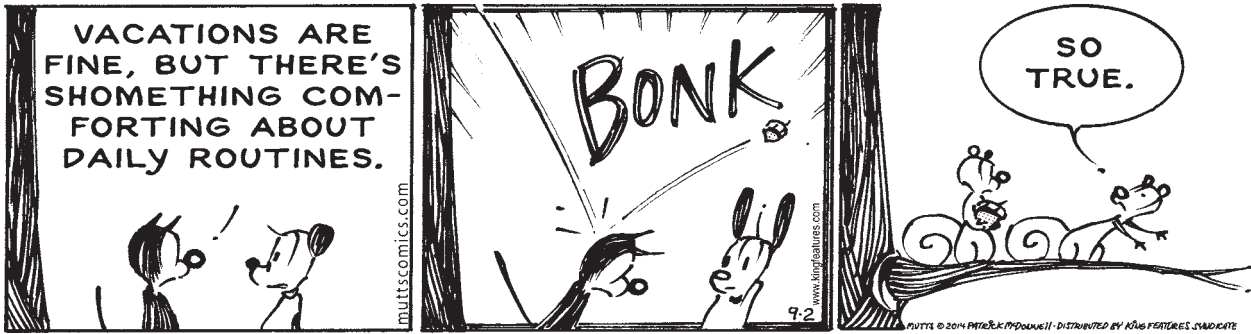
Raising this additional money comes at a cost to the startups: Venture capitalists often demand preferred stock, which can give them the right to recover their investment if the company is sold at a lower price. But in the flood of capital, many entrepreneurs are able to raise money on favorable terms and secure rich val-

School of Management, produced a reading of 4.02 on a five-point scale of confidence. While high, that level was virtually flat from the first quarter of the year, ending a seven-quarter streak of increases.

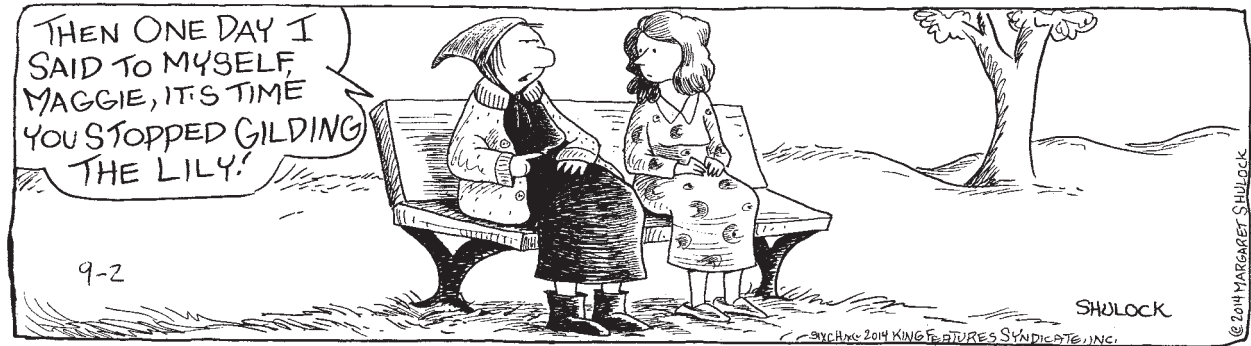
"It's a very cyclical industry, and entrepreneurs know that," said Raphael Amit, a professor of entrepreneurship and management at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Entrepreneurs, he said, are raising money "very prudently as a hedge, if



## Mutts



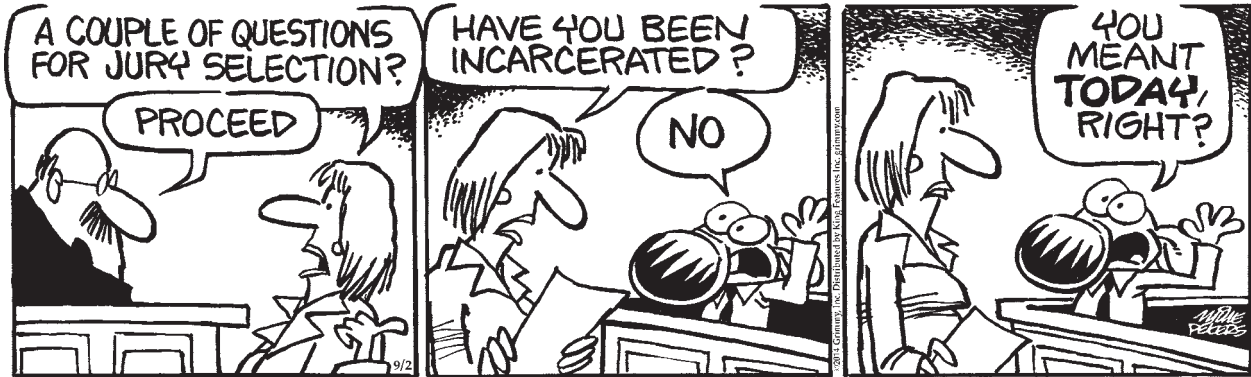
## 6 Chix



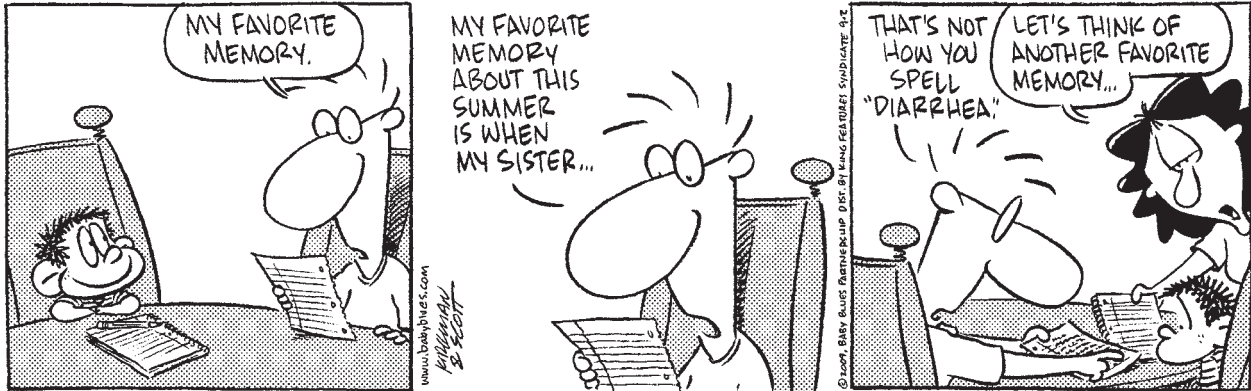
## Blondie



## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

	4		9					6
1	9		6				8	
		5		8		2		
4	5							
		3				5		
							9	7
		8		5		9		
	2				9		1	8
6				4		7		

Difficulty Level ★★

9/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

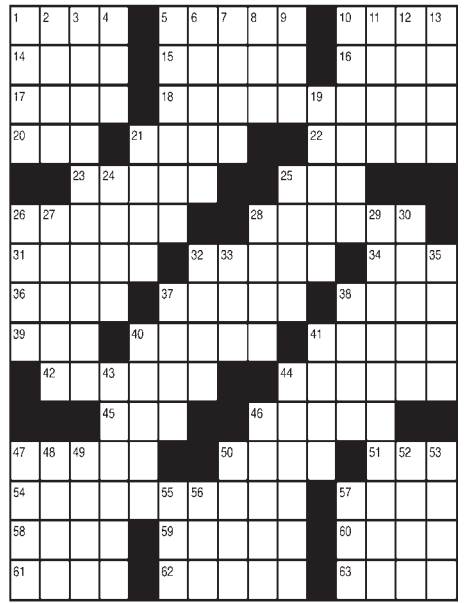
1	7	5	3	8	9	6	4	2
4	8	6	2	7	1	3	9	5
9	3	2	6	4	5	8	1	7
6	5	4	1	9	7	2	3	8
8	2	1	4	5	3	7	6	9
7	9	3	8	2	6	4	5	1
5	4	9	7	6	2	1	8	3
2	1	8	5	3	4	9	7	6
3	6	7	9	1	8	5	2	4

## ACROSS

- Ark builder
- Stringed instrument
- Have a quarrel
- Up to the task
- Close friend
- Albacore, e.g.
- Gerbils & kitties
- Folk music party
- Storm center
- Express pent-up frustration
- Deep pit
- Kitchen & den
- Have a bug
- Hockey position
- Measuring sticks
- \_\_\_ for; chose
- \_\_\_ at; sees
- Dine
- Luau garlands
- Daytime serials
- Peru's capital
- To and \_\_\_; back and forth
- Shudder
- Snake's poison
- National song
- Tent material
- Get \_\_\_ of; shed
- One of the five senses
- Love, in Paris
- Not wild
- Hot tub
- Lawful
- Perched upon
- "Red Planet"
- Richard Petty or Jeff Gordon
- Kelly or Wilder
- Flower stalk
- More than is necessary
- Likelihood

## DOWN

- Back of the neck
- Mind
- Slight change
- "For \_\_\_ a jolly good fellow..."
- Crafty plan
- Actor Jeremy
- Sound the horn
- White \_\_\_; termite
- Deli loaf
- Horse's home
- Undersized
- Jillian & Curry
- Sunbeams
- Manicurist's concerns
- Empty space
- Bullring cheers
- Black-and-white seabirds
- Mickelson's sport
- Met production
- Lasso, for one
- Bought more stock with one's dividends
- American \_\_\_; Pago Pago's land
- Rich soil
- Furniture wood
- Scottish caps
- Lean-to
- Period before Easter
- T-\_\_\_; casual top
- Bouquet holder
- Known fact
- Cellphone feature
- Spud
- Charitable gift
- Beef or pork
- Monster
- Diplomacy
- Small lake
- Primates
- Anger
- To the \_\_\_; fully
- Long, long \_\_\_



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/2/14

## Monday's Puzzle Solved

USA	NUDGE	MOST
ROLL	ASIAN	ABLE
NASA	CUPID	YEAR
POSTHASTE	HYMN	
TOOL	ADE	
SPRIGS	PAVEMENT	
ARENA	BUXOM	VIA
RUNG	PARER	GEEK
ANT	AIRE	DANCE
HESITATE	KISSES	
MEN	LIMP	
CROP	IMPULSIVE	
RAVE	SAINT	NERD
AGED	TINGE	GAGA
GENE	SNEER	LOY

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9/2/14



## Don't Catch What Ails Your House

JANE E. BRODY

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In 1982, my husband and I bought a vacation home in the foothills of the Catskills. The inspector who checked out the property failed to note three critical facts: The house had three flat roofs (in snow country), no drainage from the muddy crawl space and no insulation under the floors. In a few years, ours had become a "sick" house, with mini-lakes on sagging roofs, wet insulation underneath and a small pond in the crawl space. All of it contributed to rampant mold inside the house.

My husband was especially sensitive to mold, and he reacted with extreme fatigue whenever we visited. My sister-in-law, who lived in the house year round, complained of chronic headaches and sinus problems. I could smell the mustiness, and found mold growing on the wood cabinets and a leather love seat.

The moisture problem had to be fixed. Slanted roofs were constructed; wet insulation was replaced; downspouts were directed away from the house. We fitted the crawl space with a drain and a heavy plastic vapor barrier, and the floors above it were insulated. Mold had to be removed from furniture and cupboards and their contents. Clothing was dry cleaned, or washed and heat-dried, to get rid of the odor.

Natural disasters like Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy left hundreds of thousands

of people with flooded homes that quickly became infested with mold, unlivable and sometimes unfixable. Given moisture, mold will grow and reproduce behind wallboard, paneling, wallpaper and furniture, in ceiling tiles and insulation, on wood floors, around appliances like refrigerators and dishwashers, and under carpets and pads if not quickly dried. But as my experience demonstrated, you don't need



**It doesn't take a flood to encourage the growth of mold in a home, and the types of molds usually found in homes do not produce dangerous toxins. But they can bring misery and are best controlled by preventing their growth.**

(Tim Robinson/The New York Times)

a flood to develop a mold problem. It can happen anywhere moisture is present - a hidden leak, for example, or condensation around windows or pipes. You might not even be aware of the problem, only the distress it causes. Typical symptoms resemble those of an allergy like hay fever: a runny nose, sneezing, red or itchy eyes, throat irritation and coughing. Some people develop a skin rash; those with asthma may have an attack.

According to research by the Mayo Clinic, an immunological response to mold may cause most cases of chronic sinusitis. Mold can even infect the central nervous system, often fatally, as occurred in a 2012 outbreak of meningitis from epidural injections contaminated by *Exserohilum rostratum*. Of the 751 people infected across the country, 64 died.

The types of mold usually found in homes do not produce dangerous toxins. But they can bring misery and are best controlled by preventing their growth.

Molds are a type of fungus, and they grow by releasing spores into the air. The spores are not visible to the naked eye, but when they land on a moist surface (or when the surface they are on becomes moist), they begin to grow. Outdoors, molds play an important role in the decomposition of organic matter, like leaves and fallen trees.

Even the driest buildings contain mold spores, and those with indoor moisture may have thousands in every cubic foot of air. The spores are ubiquitous and can survive extreme dryness and cold, remaining dormant until moisture and oxygen provide a chance to grow. □

## Classifieds

### TIMESHARE FOR SALE

by owner Divi Phoenix ocean front studio rm 504, wk 37 starts on 9/13 all amenities, king bed, queen sofa \$3600 and Divi Dutch Village week 35 starts on 8/30 studio \$2975 local 565-9394 until 9/9 e-mail rmwjmwa@aol.com or US 508 651 0016

202517

### TIMESHARE FOR SALE

by owner Divi Golf & Beach 2 rm suite #4206 wk 36 starts on 9/6, lock off master, 2 baths, steps to pool and affinity river, luxury interior granite etc \$5500 and week 40, ground floor, affinity river & pool, 2 baths, luxury interior \$5800 starts on 10/4 (rent in 2014 for \$1050) local 565-9394 until 9/9 e-mail rmwjmwa@aol.com or US 508 651 0016

202517

### FOR RENT

#### Near Marriott

cottage 2 storey, 2 br/bt, living, furnished, aircon, internet, cable. Attractive garden, animals welcome. Afl. 1500 p/m excl. Tel. 586-3369

202515



## DOCTOR ON DUTY



Oranjestad  
Dr. van Ool  
San Nicolas  
Dr. Every

## EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

## PHARMACY

Oranjestad: Sta. Cruz Tel: 585-8028  
San Nicolas: Aloe Tel: 584-4606

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# Renowned rock art in Utah is younger than believed

**BRADY McCOMBS**  
**Associated Press**

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — Life-sized figures sketched into red rock cliffs in Canyonlands National Park were drawn 1,000 years more recently than what had long been believed, a team of Utah State University scientists discovered about the world-renowned rock art. The team used modern luminescence dating techniques to analyze when the art went up in what is known as the "Great Gallery" in southeastern Utah's Horseshoe Canyon. The researchers believe the figures were created 1,000 to 2,000 years ago instead of the previously thought 2,000 to 4,000 years ago. The study suggests the drawings may have been done as man transitioned to a culture of farming and away from hunting and gathering, said David Whitley, one of the foremost experts on rock art in North America.

The research becomes important in better understanding art known as Ancient Barrier Canyon-style paintings, which are usually shrouded in mystery, said Whitley, who was not involved in the study. Because of the more recent time stamp, the art was likely created during a time of great transition, when new ideologies, religions and customs were emerging, said Steven Simms, a Utah State University anthropology professor, who worked with university geology professor Joel Pederson on the study. "It puts it in a very momentous time," Simms said. They published a paper of their findings this month

in the online Early Edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Determining the date of rock art is very difficult, and there has traditionally been

to assess the date of a drawing by looking at the composition or color of the rocks.

The question piqued the interest of Pederson, who specializes in the history

figure out the date of this," Pederson said. "It was just kind of luck that a rock-art enthusiast knocked on my door."

About a year later, he began work on the project

used with the help of scientists from Denmark, Pederson said.

They homed in on a date estimate by studying how sunlight bleached away stored signals of radiation



This undated photo provided by Utah State University shows the Holy Ghost group of the Great Gallery, a striking Barrier Canyon-style rock painting in Horseshoe Canyon of southern Utah's Canyonlands National Park. **Associated Press**

very little interest from scientists in tackling the projects, said Whitley, who has studied rock art for 35 years and written 17 books.

"We tend to think of art and science as being polar opposites. The result is that artists don't talk about science much, and scientists don't talk about art much," Whitley said. "I'm very happy they did this."

The seeds of the study were planted about eight years ago when a man brought a piece of sandstone from the area to Pederson. The retired scientist and rock-art enthusiast wanted to find out if it were possible

of rivers and has written articles on the age of the Grand Canyon. After going to see the Horseshoe Canyon figures up close, Pederson was determined to test the man's theory.

"I realized, we can actually

that would take seven years to complete on a shoestring budget.

Luminescence dating techniques have been around for decades, but the method for the study is a newer form and was

on the exposed rocks, he said. Pederson and Simms are hopeful they can study other rock art to determine more precise date estimates, saying they believe the technique is widely applicable. □

## Colombia recovers archaeological gems from Spain

**BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)** — Colombia has successfully recovered from Spain hundreds of priceless, pre-Colombian artifacts smuggled out of the country more than a decade ago.

The 691 cultural treasures include carved funeral urns and conch-shaped musical instruments that, in some cases, date back thousands of years. All are from ancient societies that inhabited the northern part of the Andes prior to the arrival of Spanish explorers in the 16th century.

The foreign ministry planned to display the



objects before the press on Monday. A public exhibit of the treasures is expected to open next year. The objects were seized by Spanish authorities more

than a decade ago during an anti-narcotics bust. They were placed in the care of Madrid's Museum of the Americas prior to their return to Colombia. □



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# 'Guardians' tops Labor Day, summer box office

**SANDY COHEN**

**AP Entertainment Writer**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The intergalactic misfits of "Guardians of the Galaxy" are the summer's box-office superheroes.

Marvel's cosmic romp topped the Labor Day box office with a three-day take of \$22 million — its third time in first place since its release five weeks ago, according to studio estimates Monday. With North American ticket sales of more than \$280 million so far, "Guardians" is also the summer's — and the year's — top-grossing film to date domestically.

Still, summer box-office totals are down almost 15 percent from last year, said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak.

"This is the lowest summer since 2006 in terms of revenue," he said. "Before 'Guardians,' we were sitting on a 20 percent deficit compared to last year."

"Transformers: Age of Extinction," which opened in late June, also boosted the summer

box office with \$1 billion in global ticket sales. "Maleficent" was another hit, bringing in more than \$230 million domestically.

"This was never expected to be a record-breaking summer,"



This image released by Disney - Marvel shows Chris Pratt in a scene from "Guardians Of The Galaxy."

Associated Press

Dergarabedian said, "but it maybe came in under expectations."

The World Cup may have distracted moviegoers, he said.

Also, the death of Paul Walker caused the seventh installment of "Fast & Furious" — which might have added around \$200 million to the summer box office — to be postponed until next

summer is expected to make history again with hotly anticipated releases including "Star Wars," "Avengers: Age of Ultron" and Pixar's "Inside Out."

"Summer of 2014 is a transitional summer between two record-breaking years," Dergarabedian said.

The top movies over the lackluster Labor Day holiday were the same as the previous weekend. Paramount's "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" followed "Guardians" with \$15.7 million, while Warner Bros.' young-adult drama, "If I Stay" took third place with \$11.6 million.

"We went out with a whimper," Dergarabedian said. "We wound up a very exasperating summer on a very quiet note."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Monday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, the latest international numbers (through Sunday) are also included. Final domestic figures will be released on Tuesday. □

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# Inquiries begin into nude celebrity photo leaks

**ANTHONY McCARTNEY**

**AP Entertainment Writer**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The FBI said Monday it was addressing allegations that online accounts of several celebrities, including Oscar-winner Jennifer Lawrence, had been hacked, leading to the posting of their nude photographs online.

The agency did not say what actions it was taking to investigate who was responsible for posting naked photos of Lawrence and other stars. Apple said Monday it was looking into whether its online photo-sharing service had been hacked to obtain the intimate images.

Lawrence, a three-time Oscar nominee who won for her role in "Silver Linings Playbook," contacted authorities after the images began appearing Sunday. Naked images purporting to be of other female stars were also posted, although the authenticity of many couldn't be confirmed. The source of the leak was unclear.

"This is a flagrant violation

of privacy," Lawrence's publicist Liz Mahoney wrote in a statement. "The authorities have been contacted and will prosecute anyone who posts the stolen photos of Jennifer Lawrence."



**In this Sunday, March 2, 2014, file photo, Jennifer Lawrence arrives at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. Associated Press**

The FBI said it was "aware of the allegations concerning computer intrusions and the unlawful release of material involving high profile individuals, and is addressing the matter."

"Any further comment

would be inappropriate at this time," spokeswoman Laura Eimiller wrote in a statement.

Apple Inc. spokeswoman Natalie Kerris said the company was investigating whether any iCloud accounts had been tampered with, but she did not give any further details.

"We take user privacy very seriously and are actively investigating this report," she said.

Actress Mary Elizabeth Winstead also confirmed that nude photos of her were posted online.

"To those of you looking at photos I took with my husband years ago in the privacy of our home, hope you feel great about yourselves," Winstead posted on Twitter. Winstead, who starred in "Final Destination 3" and "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter," wrote that she thought the images had been destroyed.

"Knowing those photos were deleted long ago, I can only imagine the creepy effort that went into this," Winstead wrote.

The FBI has investigated previous leaks of nude celebrity images, including leaks involving Scarlett Johansson, Mila Kunis, Christina Aguilera and footage of television sports reporter Erin Andrews in a Tennessee hotel room. Those cases resulted in convictions. How widespread the hacking of celebrities photos was is not immediately clear. Some of the images were quickly denounced as fakes.

Some cybersecurity experts speculated that hackers may have obtained a cache of private celebrity images by exploiting weaknesses in an online image-storing platform.

"It is important for celebrities and the general public to remember that images and data no longer just reside on the device that captured it," security researcher Ken Westin wrote in a blog post Monday. "Once images and other data are uploaded to the cloud, it becomes much more difficult to control who has access to it, even

if we think it is private."

Private information and images of celebrities are frequent targets for hackers. Last year, a site posted credit reports, Social Security numbers and other financial info on celebrities, including Jay Z and his wife Beyonce, Mel Gibson, Ashton Kutcher and many others.

Johansson, Kunis and Aguilera were hacked by a Florida man, Christopher Chaney, who used publicly available information to hack into the email accounts of more than 50 people in the entertainment industry.

"I have been truly humiliated and embarrassed," Johansson said in a tearful videotaped statement played in court at Chaney's sentencing in December 2012.

"That feeling of security can never be given back and there is no compensation that can restore the feeling one has from such a large invasion of privacy," Aguilera wrote in a statement before Chaney's sentencing. □



**This photo provided by ABC shows "World News" anchor, David Muir, in New York. Among the stories Muir will introduce during his first week as anchor in early Sept. 2014, is one he reported about a generation of Syrian refugees missing out on an education. Associated Press**

**DAVID BAUDER**

**AP Television Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Among the stories David Muir will introduce during his first week as ABC's "World News" anchor is one he reported about a generation of Syrian refugees missing out on

## David Muir takes over at ABC's 'World News'

an education.

Besides detailing a hidden aspect of the civil war, the story serves a dual purpose: to signal viewers — and his bosses — that Muir wants to get out of the office for work as much as he can.

"A huge part of this for me was a promise that I was not going to be tethered to the anchor desk," said Muir, who officially replaces Diane Sawyer Monday night. Muir, 40, joins NBC "Nightly News" anchor Brian Williams and Scott Pelley of the "CBS Evening News" at one of the three jobs generally considered the pinnacle of American broadcast news. Muir is also a generation younger than the 55-year-old Williams and Pelley, 57.

Already a familiar face as "World News" weekend anchor and Sawyer's sub on weeknights, Muir has groomed himself for the job since he was a child.

As a latchkey child of divorced parents growing up

near Syracuse, N.Y., Muir took comfort from the news "family" that appeared on his television each evening. He watched ABC's Peter Jennings, trying to guess who would be named "person of the week." At age 12, he wrote to Syracuse anchorman Ron Curtis for advice on how to get in the business and had an internship at WTVH-TV by the next summer.

Muir became so familiar that the newsroom had a spot on the wall to mark how much he'd grown each year. When he was still at nearby Ithaca College, WTVH hired Muir to anchor the weekend news.

After five years at WTVH, he moved on to Boston and, in 2003, came to ABC News. Hurricane Katrina was one of the first places his work attracted attention.

"All of the elements of being a news anchor he does superbly," said David Westin, the ABC News president

who hired Muir. He shows versatility in reporting, interviewing and working in the studio, he said.

Network anchors traveling to stories used to be more commonplace, and when Westin appointed Bob Woodruff and Elizabeth Vargas to replace Jennings a decade ago, it was on the theory that at least one would be on the road regularly. It has become less frequent, in part due to costs. Muir considers the reporting an important part of his identity and, he believes, what viewers expect of him. "The evening news is evolving rapidly, and I think we have to be extraordinarily nimble," he said.

The dinnertime newscasts have been shadowed by predictions of their demise for about as long as Muir has been working. But each has seen its viewership increase over the past year. Muir, who frequently tweets during commercial breaks,

said the programs' abilities to sum up the day's most important stories is valuable at a time people are bombarded with information.

Andrew Tyndall, a consultant who monitors the content of evening newscasts, said "World News" tends to be faster-paced with a higher story count when Muir is anchor. Muir resists the notion that he packs the broadcast with more material, but said he wants to keep some things short so more important stories have room to breathe.

Muir will start "World News" with a new executive producer, Almin Karamemmedovic, who he said shares "a thirst to travel the world." It's difficult to judge at the start where a new anchor will take a broadcast. Westin likened it to a president appointing a new Supreme Court justice — the person may not turn out as liberal or conservative as was initially thought. □



## The Mental Virtues



DAVID BROOKS  
© 2014 New York Times

We all know what makes for good character in soldiers. We've seen the movies about heroes who display courage, loyalty and coolness under fire. But what about somebody who sits in front of a keyboard all day? Is it possible to display and cultivate character if you are just an information age office jockey, alone with a memo or your computer? Of course it is. Even if you are alone in your office, you are thinking.

Thinking well under a barrage of information may be a different sort of moral challenge than fighting well under a hail of bullets, but it's a character challenge nonetheless.

In their 2007 book, "Intellectual Virtues," Robert C. Roberts of Baylor University and W. Jay Wood of Wheaton College list some of the cerebral virtues. We can all grade ourselves on how good we are at each of them.

First, there is love of learning. Some people are just more ardently curious than others, either by cultivation or by nature.

Second, there is courage. The obvious form of intellectual courage is the willingness to hold unpopular views. But the subtler form is knowing how much risk to take in jumping to conclusions. The reckless thinker takes a few pieces of information and leaps to some faraway conspiracy theory. The perfectionist, on the other hand, is unwilling to put anything out there except under ideal conditions for fear that she could be wrong. Intellectual courage is self-regulation, Roberts and Wood argue, knowing when to be daring and when to be cautious. The philosopher Thomas Kuhn pointed out that scientists often simply ignore facts that don't fit with their existing paradigms, but an intellectually courageous person is willing to look at things that are surprisingly hard to look at.

Third, there is firmness. You don't want to be a person who surrenders his beliefs at the slightest whiff of opposition. On the other hand, you don't want to hold dogmatically to a belief against all evidence.

The median point between flaccidity and rigidity is the virtue of firmness. The firm believer can build a steady worldview on solid timbers but still delight in new

information. She can gracefully adjust the strength of her conviction to the strength of the evidence. Firmness is a quality of mental agility.

Fourth, there is humility, which is not letting your own desire for status get in the way of accuracy. The humble person fights against vanity and self-importance. He's not writing those sentences people write to make themselves seem smart; he's not thinking of himself much at all. The humble researcher doesn't become arrogant toward his subject, assuming he has mastered it. Such a person is open to learning from anyone at any stage in life.

Fifth, there is autonomy. You don't want to be a person who slavishly adopts whatever opinion your teacher or some author gives you. On the other hand, you don't want to reject all guidance from people who know what they are talking about. Autonomy is the median of knowing when to bow to authority and when not to, when to follow a role model and when not to, when to adhere to tradition and when not to.

Finally, there is generosity. This virtue starts with the willingness to share knowledge and give others credit. But it also means hearing others as they would like to be heard, looking for what each person has to teach and not looking to triumphantly pounce upon their errors.

We all probably excel at some of these virtues and are deficient in others. But I'm struck by how much of the mainstream literature on decision-making treats the mind as some disembodied organ that can be programed like a computer.

In fact, the mind is embedded in human nature, and very often thinking well means pushing against the grain of our nature - against vanity, against laziness, against the desire for certainty, against the desire to avoid painful truths. Good thinking isn't just adopting the right technique. It's a moral enterprise and requires good character, the ability to go against our lesser impulses for the sake of our higher ones.

Montaigne once wrote that "We can be knowledgeable with other men's knowledge, but we can't be wise with other men's wisdom." That's because wisdom isn't a body of information. It's the moral quality of knowing how to handle your own limitations.

Warren Buffett made a similar point in his own sphere, "Investing is not a game where the guy with the 160 IQ beats the guy with the 130 IQ. Once you have ordinary intelligence, what you need is the temperament to control the urges that get other people into trouble."

Character tests are pervasive even in modern everyday life. It's possible to be heroic if you're just sitting alone in your office. It just doesn't make for a good movie. □



## Imagining Successful Schools



JOE NOCERA  
© 2014 New York Times

What should teacher accountability look like?

We know what the current system of accountability looks like, and it's not pretty. Ever since the passage of No Child Left Behind 12 years ago, teachers have been judged, far too simplistically, based on standardized tests given to their students - tests, as Marc S. Tucker points out in a new report, Fixing Our National Accountability System, that are used to decide which teachers should get to keep their jobs and which should be fired. This system has infuriated and shamed teachers, and is a lot of the reason that teacher turnover is so high, causing even many of the best teachers to abandon the ranks.

All of which might be worth it if this form of accountability truly meant that public school students were getting a better education. But, Tucker writes, "There is no evidence that it is contributing anything to improved student performance." Meanwhile, he adds, test-based accountability is "doing untold damage to the profession of teaching."

Tucker is one of the grand old men of education policy. In the 1970s, he worked at the National Institute of Education, followed by a stint at the Carnegie Corp.

In 1988, he founded the National Center on Education and the Economy - whose premise, he told me recently, is that, in order to meet the demands of a global economy, our educational system needs to be re-engineered for much higher performance.

Not long after founding the center, Tucker began taking a close look at countries and cities that were re-engineering successfully. What he came away with were two insights. First was a profound appreciation for the fact that most of the countries with the best educational results used the same set of techniques to get there. And, second, that the American reform methods were used nowhere else in the world.

"No other country believes that you can get to a high quality educational system simply by instituting an accountability system," he says. "We are entirely on the wrong track." His cri de coeur has been that Americans should look to what works, instead of clinging to what doesn't.

The main thing that works is treating teaching as a profession, and teachers as professionals. That means that teachers are as well paid as other professionals, that they have a career ladder, that they go to elite schools where they learn their craft, and that they are among the top quartile of college graduates instead of the bottom quartile. When I suggested that American cities couldn't afford to pay teachers the way we pay engineers or lawyers, Tucker scoffed. With rare exception, he said, the cost per pupil in the places with the best educational systems is less than the American system, even though their teachers are far better paid.

"They are not spending more money; they are spending money differently," he said.

Tucker would not abolish tests, but he would have fewer of them. And they would have a different purpose: in the high-per-

forming countries, the tests exist to hold the students accountable, rather than the teachers. Meanwhile, he writes, in "most of these countries, the primary form of accountability for the school and its staff is high-profile publication of the average scores for the exams for each school, often front-page news."

When a school falls short, instead of looking to fire teachers, the high-performing countries "use the data to decide which schools will receive visits from teams of expert school inspectors. These inspectors are highly regarded educators."

Tucker envisions the same kind of accountability for teachers as exists for, say, lawyers in a firm - where it is peers holding one another accountable rather than some outside force. People who don't pull their own weight are asked to leave. The ethos is that people help one another to become better for the good of the firm. Those who successfully rise through the ranks are rewarded with higher pay and status.

Would the teachers' unions go along with such a scheme? The unions would certainly have to shed some of the things they now have, such as control of work rules. But they would gain so much else: "Management would get their prerogatives back and would be held accountable for results, but the professionals, granted far more autonomy, would be also holding each other accountable for the quality of their work, as professionals everywhere do."

As our conversation was coming to an end, Tucker told me that he was working with the state of Kentucky to implement some of the reforms he had outlined in his report. If it works there - and there is no reason it shouldn't - perhaps we'll finally get over our fixation with test-based accountability, and finally re-engineer our educational system the way every other successful country has. □



# Even at Practice Session, Federer Is Hottest Draw

HARVEY ARATON

© 2014 New York Times

**NEW YORK** - Prashanth Iyer and Ashwin Verghese were on their way to beginning a day of tennis watching at the Louis Armstrong Stadium when they came upon a commotion around the practice courts at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.

They were going to check out David Ferrer playing Gilles Simon. But as with most fans at the U.S. Open's day sessions, there were options along with sudden realizations.

"I mean, Ferrer's the No. 5 player in the world," Verghese, 28, of Philadelphia, said. "But then we heard this was for Roger."

Welcome to Roger Federer's prematch hit with his coach, Stefan Edberg, under a broiling late-morning sun, where it was crowded, sticky and a smartphone festival of amateur photographers.

For Federer - product of Switzerland, celebrity of the world - the new bleachers above the practice courts were filled. The new fan runway behind the courts was jammed. The three rows of seating behind the outside fence alongside the courts

were taken, and several more unruly rows of folks from behind called out as if they'd known Federer for years as the neighbor from down the block.

"I think many people would rather watch him practice than watch a lot of other guys play a real match," Verghese said.

His friend Iyer, also 28, of South Brunswick, New Jersey, said, "I'm already good for the day."

Never mind that Federer and Edberg, scheduled to hit on Court No. 5, on the side closest to the ground-level fans outside, had mo-seyed on over to Court No. 4, farther away, but actually providing fans in the upper bleachers a more centralized view.

Hardly a soul closer to Court No. 5 shrugged and left. Nobody complained. In the case of Federer, that apparently would be decidedly uncool.

"He's my favorite of all time, my role model," said Mary Beth Jackson, a 16-year-old tennis player from Pinehurst, North Carolina, who competes in USTA-sanctioned events in the South. "It's how he acts, how classy he is, how positive he stays."



**Mary Beth Jackson, 16, a fan of Roger Federer, who came to watch him practice, and her father, Wade Jackson, hold up tickets to one of Federer's matches given to them by other fans in New York. Federer's prematch hit with his coach under a late-morning sun, was crowded with the new bleachers above the practice courts filled. For longtime Federer admirers, the courts are a gift from the tennis gods, or in this case the USTA.** (Barton Silverman/The New York Times)

Over her blond hair, she had on a blue Federer cap and said she wore it everywhere but to school.

"When I'm playing, I always try to think: What would Roger do?" she said. The response to her rhetorical question: "Not throw the racket."

Jackson did not have a ticket to Ashe, where Federer would defeat Marcel Granollers of France, 4-6, 6-1, 6-1, 6-1, to reach the fourth round. Several others watching the practice did have entry, but most said their seats were not close to the court and they lamented the vastness of Ashe that made it difficult to get a full appreciation of his balletic movement, his pure strokes. Federer, 33, is known for his love of the sport and its environment, embracing what others might see as distraction. To reporters last week, he endorsed the new practice access as a good fit with the world's most boisterous Grand Slam event.

"You don't feel as much privacy and all that stuff," he said. "But that's fine. We're at the U.S. Open."

For longtime Federer admirers, the courts are a gift from the tennis gods, or in this case the USTA.

"I saw him at Wimbledon two years ago on my honeymoon," Matt Green, 30, of Briarcliff, New York, said. "But to see it close up is so much better."

Aras Suziedelis of Severna Park, Maryland, was watching Federer practice, along with his wife, Dana, and their two children. He said: "I heard John McEnroe say it

the other day: 'There's nothing like his elegance. It's like butter.'"

His will to play on, at 33, the father of four, has seemed impervious to deflations like last year's Round of 16 defeat to Tommy Robredo.

"But you just never know," Dana Suziedelis said. "He could also win something like this and then say, 'OK, that's enough.'"

In other words, if you get a chance to see him in a setting like Sunday's practice, don't waste it.

Federer fans attend his practices with a variety of gear, though mostly his trademark caps. Ever the tactful capitalist, he told reporters last week that "there is an opportunity for the fan to maybe feel more related to me, more closer to tennis and to me. Then when I do see so many fans showing up with the apparel, I feel closer to it, naturally."

He does give back. When his warm-up ended abruptly after about a half-hour, nobody raced away to watch Simon's four-set upset of the fourth-seeded Ferrer, or anyone else. The fans behind the fence, alongside Court 4, were perfectly positioned as Federer spent a good 20 minutes signing caps, balls, programs - pretty much anything put in front of him. □



**Roger Federer of Switzerland during his third-round match against Marcel Granollers at Arthur Ashe Stadium during the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Aug. 31, 2014. Federer's prematch hit with his coach under a late-morning sun, was crowded with the new bleachers above the practice courts filled. For longtime Federer admirers, the courts are a gift from the tennis gods, or in this case the USTA.** (Barton Silverman/The New York Times)